THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL .....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 14TH JUNE.

WE GIVE this fact as a proof of the fall in the value of house-property in Calcutta. A house in Dhurmtolla standing on a biga of land and yielding a monthly rental of Rs. 105 was lately sold by a Mr. Boyd to the Official Trustee for a consideration of Rs. 10,500 or at ten years' purchase. The cause of this decline is heavy municipal taxation and the numerous charges for drainage, water and the like imposed by the Municipal laws.

SIR ALEXANDER ARBUTHNOT has taken his seat as an Ordinary Member of the Governor General's Council.

IT IS stated that Mr. Ellis will take the place of Sir George Campbell in the Council of the Secretary of State. Sir Cecil Beadon had better claims. It is now seen that the blunders of the Orissa Famine were not entirely due to him, and we hope the Secretary of State will avail himself of his rare abilities.

THE PROSPEROUS condition of Peshwar reflects great credit upon the British Government. The loss of property from the late conflagration is estimated at 40 lacs, taking the property destroyed and the cost of reconstruction, and the Commissioner of the division says that the people do not require outside assistance. He thus writes to Government:

"Deputy Commissioner reported to me almost immediately after the towns-people began to return that no necessity for a relief fund existed, and later that the loss of houses had fallen on the most prosperous portion of the community, so that charitable aid towards re-construction would be unsuitable. After due enquiry I concurred in this opinion, and proceeded to cancel the applications I had made in various quarters when I had not unnaturally supposed that relief on a large scale would be absolutely necessary. The Municipal Committee of Lahore telegraphed sympathy, and begged to contribute Rs. 1,000 to Relief Fund. Their kindness was duly acknowledged, and the subscription declined.

The Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab thus acknowledges the above:

"The fact stated in your report that, notwithstanding a loss of property estimated at £4000,000 in value, and the destruction of 1,087 dwelling houses and 829 shops, there should be no distress and no necessity for a relief fund is difficult to realize; but if true, is a remarkable proof of the prosperity of Peshawar, and of the self-reliant and provident character of its citizens. Should, however, further enquiry show that pecuniary assistance is required to relieve cases of present distress, His Honor feels sure that the public will not be slow in coming forward liberally with contributions."

Strange that the local Government should have remained ignorant of this unusual prosperity of the people.

A NICE question has arisen among the Assam hill chiefs in connection with the Chewa Succession. Ram Sing, the reigning chief is dead, and Borsing Sing, the heir apparent, has embraced Christianity, which has rendered him exceedingly unpopular. The *Bengal Times* says:

"The point in dispute is whether it would accord with the usages and traditions of the people, to acknowledge a heretic as eligible to the guddee, some authorities being of opinion that such a course would be inconsistent with ancient customs while others believe that no known principle of succession would be violated by a Christian being nominated to power—a precedent that is regarded with extreme disfavour by several powerful chiefs.

According to tradition, the twelve clans in times past vowed fealty to the ruling dynasty—guided thereto by *Ra Btei* the goddess, whereby their "house," "persons" and "office" were rendered inviolable and have ever since been held to be sacred. The durbars held by British officers to settle the question have all proved resultless.

We hope our Government will allow the Hill-men to settle their own affairs. If they meddle, they are sure to muddle.

THE BEHAR HERALD has received numerous complaints of the manner in which the preliminary proceedings in connection with the Road Cess Act are being carried out in certain districts in the Patna division. Patwaris and agents of zemindars are detained for weeks at the head-quarters to their great inconvenience. But this is not all. Underlings of the Road Cess Office, our contemporary hears, have not been slow to make hay while the sun shines. No wonder this if the head of the office goes to sleep.

APROPOS of the resignation of the Patna Government Pleadership by Babu Nobinchunder Dey the same contemporary says: "We note it as a strange fact that pleaders, who have extensive practice, do not like to be Government Pleaders—and why? Because they have to please no end of masters, and also because they are, we are told, not properly treated,—wigging being the order of the day." This matter requires investigation.

THE FIELD gives an account of the longest game of chess anywhere recorded. The game was played by correspondence between a gentleman in New York and a gentleman in Baden, both good players. It began as far back as 1859, and was only brought to a conclusion on March 18th, 1875, having extended over sixteen years! It consisted of fifty moves on each side, and was at length terminated by a blunder said to have been caused by a feeling of impatience on the part of the Baden gentleman, because his opponent had taken seven months to answer the last move.

A CONTEMPORARY gives a description of the King of Burma's Durbar, which may not be uninteresting at the present moment. The King lives in the inner fort at Mandalay, in which is located a very large body of troops; the outer and larger fort is occupied by the ministers of State and their officials, besides a great number of merchants and visitors. The King is very short-sighted, and always carries with him a pair of binoculars. The ceremony of a Durbar in Burma is very simple, although in one or two respects it differs from those of other Eastern Courts. The hall in which the Durbars are held is a very spacious one, and is very handsomely carved and decorated. Opposite to the entrance door on a dais of gold is a golden couch or settee. By the side of the dais is a small gilt door. After all the ambassadors have taken their respective position (for no one can enter after the King comes in) the gilt door opens, and the King, who never bows or salutes any one, simply walks up to the dais and seats himself. The Burmese present go on all fours, directly the King enters. He then takes a leisurely look round the hall through his binoculars, and addresses any one he wishes to speak to or consult. After the conversation ends, the King rises and without saluting any one present, retires by the same entrance through which he came. The assembly then rises and dissolves.

TUESDAY, 15TH JUNE.

THE INDIAN PUBLIC OPINION says: "In the interests of native suitors who have occasion to attend our Civil Criminal Courts, we feel bound to call attention to a gross abuse which has sprung up amongst the menial establishment attached to our various courts. We allude to the system of levying blackmail from successful suitors, which has for some time past been practised unchecked by men of the chupprassie class attached to our courts." This nuisance is not confined to the Punjab.

THE FOLLOWING is going the round of the papers: While the Right Hon'ble W. E. Gladstone was staying at Nottingham, sometime last month, it appears he took an opportunity of indulging in what is called, his "favourite recreation" of felling timber. One morning he proceeded to Nottingham Park, where a tree was pointed out to him as being an obstruction; whereupon, it is said, the Right Hon'ble gentleman, divesting himself of his coat and waistcoat, promptly attacked the tree, and accomplished his task of felling it in about three-quarters of an hour. This at the age of 74!

THE SPECTATOR attributes the "benighted" condition of Madras to the absence of a strong Governor. It says:

"The great dependency, with its 132.000, square miles, nearly three Englands, 23,000,000 of population, and revenue of some ten millions, has not, it is true, been ill-governed. The profound quiet which usually reigns there, the absence not only of any political danger, but of ordinary rioting, proves that, and there have been plenty of thoughtful papers written and sent home; but still, Madras does not advance like the other provinces. Cities do now grow fast there. Trade does not expand into big figures. Wealth does not increase sufficiently. The people do not make themselves heard enough. There is a sort of languor in the presidency which makes itself felt, and which has its effect on the administrative services. The Madras Army, though very useful and faithful under some provocations, tends always to degenerate into a laxly-organised police force. The Madras Civil Service is, we should say, of the four divisions of that service in India the one most comfortable for an ordinary man, and is apt to be avoided by the most energetic and ambitious of competitors, who do not we may add, in their avoidance always display quite their usual amount of intelligent self-interest. Ordinary Englishmen are apt to think that since Tippoo fell, the Vellore mutiny is the only thing that has happened in Madras. A good strong, Governor, with a mind and an ambition and some magnetic power, the sort of man Sir Andrew Clarke would be if he were Governor, might find a good deal of very effective work to do in Madras. He might settle that question of the Army which Viceroy and Governors and Commanders in-Chief and Generals in Command have been pottering at for a generation, with no particular result either to our military strength or our financial prosperity, except to turn most Madras officers into so many Arvalans men "all naked feeling and raw life," who are always defending themselves against unjust treatment, which, no doubt, they sometimes receive. He could put more "go" into the Civil Service, which is a little too small, and a little too much inclined to form a snug party, and little too contented with itself and all that has been. He could bring the Madras specialty, its passion for engineering, into play more usefully, perhaps, than has yet been done—though all engineers in Madras will be wrath at the suggestion, for do they not understand hydraulics, and is not canal-making the end alike of sceince and nature and man?—and he may even face the problem which every successive Governor has shrunk from, the necessity of killing Madras—the city—and transferring the capital to some place where progress and civilisation are at all events things possible of attainment."

The writer seems to have greater faith in a "strong" man than others have.

IT IS said that M. de la Bastie has discovered a way to render glass tough. He heats the glass to a certain point and then plunges it into an oily compound. The result is that it will not break. You may throw your wine-glasses on the floor, let weights fall upon them or heat them, but they stand the test of course, up to a certain point.

MR. JUSTICE MACPHERSON has received a letter confirming the death of Mr. Fagan. The Small Cause Court was accordingly closed yesterday as a mark of respect to the memory of the lamented, deceased. Mr. Sconce, the officiating First Judge, thus addressed the bar of his Court:

"It has been my painful duty from intelligence I received a few minutes since to confirm the report which has been going about for some time relating to the death of our late beloved 1st Judge, Mr. George Smoult Fagan. I have the best authority for saying that a letter has been received from Mrs. Fagan herself, confirming the news of her husband's death. During his career of more than ten years as 1st Judge of this Court, the public and the Government alike had learnt to regard him with confidence as a learned and laborious Judge. Many of us especially we who were his colleagues, have not only to lament the loss of the Judge, but the kind and warm-hearted friend. Out of respect to his memory the Court will be closed this day."

Babu Kunjolal Banerjea, the 2nd Judge, said:

"I only desire to add a few words to what Mr. Sconce has already said. Mr. Fagan's death is a great and painful loss which is equally shared by me and my countrymen. Of his merits as a Judge perhaps you and the public are the best judges. For myself I may say that during my official career during the past thirty years, a more conscientious, careful and upright Judge I have never met with, nor one so ready and willing to change his opinion when it was shown to be wrong. personally, I am greatly indebted to Mr. Fagan. When I first joined this court I was a stranger to the law as it is administered here. Mr. Fagan warmly received me, from day to day he advised and instructed me, and by his instructions I greatly benefited. To me, therefore, his loss, as I have said, is a great one, and that loss is I am sure equally felt by all my countrymen."

Mr. MacEwen in closing his Court said:

"It is hardly necessary for me to add anything to what has just been said in another Court, but I will say this: Mr. Fagan during his tenure of office as 1st Judge has done more for the improvement of this Court than it has fallen to the lot of any other Judge to accomplish. Every member of the establishment has reason to remember him with gratitude, and by his constant and earnest appeals he secured for us and the public this fine new building, with which his name will always be associated. There is probably not one amongst you who will not be able to recall for himself some good office or kindly act rendered by Mr. Fagan. The Judges have lost in him a much esteemed colleague, and all of us a much valued friend."

Mr. Ross on behalf of the pleaders made a few suitable remarks.

THE PALL MALL GAZETTE has the following:

"The British sailor of the old type is rapidly becoming an extinct being. From all quarters of the globe comes the same story of the change for the worse to be observed in his conduct and habits. Consul Bernal, in his commercial report on Havre just issued, regrets that he cannot report more favourably than in former years of many of the seamen who come under his notice. While captains, on the one hand, universally complain of their general deterioration in seamanship, there is an increasing tendency on the part of the men to insubordination and the preferring of frivolous complaints. In the meantime large numbers of foreigners are employed on board English vessels, to the disgust of the Britishborn seamen."

Is it come to this? Shall it no longer be said that Brittannia rules the wave?

WEDNESDAY, 16TH JUNE.

THE DULL SEASON is telling fearfully on the Calcutta Press. The *Englishman* this morning has had to spin a column on the shortcomings of native servants founded on the fact of a cook having kept

away some meat for clarifying his master's soup. The remedy for the evil is simple enough. Reverse Sir George Campbell's recommendation, and import some English servants, and there will be no sugar nor tea nor meat nor beer missing, and sauciness will be replaced by the most perfect subserviency, and suavity, *Punch's* cartoons notwithstanding. Of course commission, the English name for *Dasturi*, is unknown among servants and tradesmen in England. Our contemporary next devotes a column and a half to a neighbour's predilection for catgutscraping and a discussion as to whether or not soap should be used in a public bath—the bone of contention among the Soapites and the Anti-Soapites of a Mofussil station. We really pity the straits to which the leading paper has been driven! Even monster gooseberries would be relief at such a time.

THE NEW Sheriff of Bombay has brought to light a fine state of things. The cash-keeper alone, it is said, will have to make good Rs. 10,000. Were not some disclosures made in the Calcutta Office when Mr. Ferguson was appointed Deputy Sheriff two years ago, and we believe his services were recommended by the Chief Justice to be retained for this year because he was in the midst of an important enquiry. We hope he is pursuing his enquiry with perseverance and energy.

THE MADRAS MAIL thus accounts for the grovelling condition of the East Indian population :

"It is the practice with that class to contract marriage ere they have reached adult age. A lad no sooner earns enough to support himself than he looks him out for a girl to share what is just enough for one, and insufficient therefore for two or more. He need not be at a loss about finding a wife. He is probably surrounded by families in which daughters are a plethora, and magenta bonnet, or a crimson skirt settles his fate. He does not believe in long engagements, nor does his bride-elect, nor do her parents, so he repairs to the clergyman, and is linked, in all probability for the rest of his life, to poverty. Human fecundity being usually in inverse proportion to wealth and health, the young fellow is soon surrounded by a troop of wee klings who, however, have a strong vitality in spite of everything. A goodly number of these olive-branches grow up, in spite of insufficient nourishment, air, and exercise. They too become amorous in their turn, and throwing discretion to the dogs, rush headlong into "love in a cottage." The race is not protected against degeneracy by the importation and infusion of new blood as are the modern Americans, but it marries in and in, breeds with lamentable success, and now finds itself barely able to keep body and soul together."

We must confess that there is much truth in the above.

UNDER authority of Her Majesty's Government the Governor General in Council notifies that consequent on the abolition of the rank of Ensign, Officers promoted from the ranks to unattached commissions will be granted, in the first instance, the rank of Sub-Lieutenant being given after one year's approved service. Warrant Officers entitled to honorary commissions will at once receive the rank of Lieutenant, but will be considered junior of that grade for one year. They will retain that rank until promoted to be Deputy Commissaries.

IT IS stated that the total length of all the separate Telegraph wires in the world is now more than 1,000,000 miles, placed on a road of about 400,000 miles; the submarine cables are, together, 50,000 miles long. The number of offices is 25,000, and the yearly number of telegrams forwarded is estimated at nearly 100,000,000, for which over £ 12,000,000, are paid.

MR. CHARLES LELAND has published a book entitled *Fusang; or the Discovery of America by Chinese Buddhist Priests in the Fifth Century*. It is founded on the investigations of De Guignes and Professor Neumann. These distinguished scholars consider that proof exists of some region in America having been fairly well known to the Chinese in the sixth century, under the name of Fusang, and of the Buddhist religion having been preached there with considerable success. In the annals of the Leang dynasty and the encyclopædia of Mantuanlin, reference is made to the report of Hoei-schin, a Buddhist monk, who returned from travel in 499 A.D., and stated himself to have visited a country called Fusang, twenty thousand *li* eastward of "Tahan" (Alaska, according to Neumann; Josso, according to De Guignes). This country, according to the traveller, derived its name from the Fusang tree, identified by most advocates of his veracity with the Mexican aloe. From this tree the inhabitants derived part of their food and clothing. Their houses were built of wood- fortifications being unknown. They had cattle with enormous horns, horses, and stags used for purposes of draught. They had no iron, but copper in its place. Gold and silver were known, but not used as coin. They were acquainted with written characters and employed an astronomical cycle of ten years. Their form of government was monarchical, with the accompaniment of an aristocracy. It would thus appear beyond dispute that the Chinese had in the sixth century a notion of a distant and remarkable country to the east, and there can be little doubt that, if not altogether imaginary, it must have been America.

A LONDON COMPANY has been formed, or rather projected to buy the waterworks belonging to the city of Bombay. The projectors desire to levy the full amount of rate, and guarantee a full supply. The Home Government have received the application not unfavorably; but the Bombay corporation is not inclined to give up their right so very easily. If the interests of the rate-payers are to be looked to, we would advise the Corporation to have nothing to do with a private company. Calcutta has had good experience of the Gas Company.

WE ARE glad to observe that death-rate has fallen in Calcutta. The total number of deaths for the week ending on the 29th May was 211, and the same for the week on the 5th June was 213.

THURSDAY, 17TH JUNE.

THE Village Chowkeedaree Act—VI. (B. C.) of 1870—is to be extended to the districts of Patna, Shahabad, Durbhungah, and Sarun, and to the Sudder Sub-division of Mozufferpore, from the 1st July next; also to the whole district of Mozufferpore from the 1st April 1876. So this Act will not be allowed to remain a dead letter.

GAS LIGHT is to be extended to Howrah. The Oriental Gas Company has agreed to supply gas for Rs. 4,840 per annum, which amount will be raised by a 3 per cent. rate on the valuation of buildings and lands situated in the illuminated streets. The cost of supplying and erecting the lamps will be about Rs. 4,125, which the Municipal Commissioners are to provide from the general fund. The poor natives will be taxed for the benefit of the Europeans. Does the Howrah Lighting Act permit the application of the general fund to the payment of expenses for gas light?

THE MORNING PAPERS publish the results of the new Loan. The tenders were as follows :

European ...	...	...	3,56,15,800
Native ...	...	...	1,85,45,100
	Total	...	5,41,60,900
Amount allotted.			
European ...	..	...	1,07,33,500
Native ...	...	...	1,42,66,500
	Total	...	2,50,00,000

Tenders at 102 receive 91-64 per cent. Average rate of allotment Rs. 102-3-8. We have been favoured by the Accountant General with a list of names of persons, whose tenders have been accepted. It appears that this time the native applicants have received the largest preference.

THE TIMES OF INDIA publishes the following important telegrams :

"*Brindisi May* 23. Telegrams from London state that the *Times* and *Pall Mall Gazette* give Mr. Grant-Duff a fearful flagellation. The *Times* thinks his defence of the action in Baroda affair most damaging to Lord Northbrook.

The *Saturday Review* thinks that up to the time Lord Northbrook leaves this stage everything was clear, consistent and decisive but that when the Home Government intervened everything became obscure, wandering, and incoherent. This is not strictly true, says your London Correspondent. Lord Northbrook laid down one policy in regard to the case, and he acted on another. Lord Salisbury had no alternative but to acquiesce or recall the Viceroy, which was impossible.

The *Spectator* thinks the Proclamation does not improve the situation in the least degree.

The *Observer*, noticing the assertion of the Bombay native paper, the *Indu Prokash*, that the claim of the Paramount Power to depose Native Princes was not legal, demands explanation of the legal status of a native sovereign in regard to the Supreme Government and the Crown. Public interest in the Baroda question is unabated.

When all the papers are received there will be a debate in the House."

THE Governor General in council is pleased to rule that a duty of six annas per maund or three thousand two hundred tolas shall, on and after the 19th of June 1875, be levied on all unrefined sugar exported across the Inland Customs line from the territories administered by the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, provided that no such duty shall be levied on sugar exported to the Presidency of Bombay.

DR. CHEVERS delivered an excellent address at the annual distribution of prizes to the students of the Calcutta Medical College. He thus noticed the death of Dr. Chuckerbutty :

"On the 29th of September this College sustained a great loss by the death, in England, of Surgeon Major Surji Kumar Goodeve Chakarbati, M.D, one of the physicians to the Hospital, and Professor of Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine. He received the larger portion of his medical education in this College. He was one of four students of this College who were sent by Government to complete their education in London, under the care of Dr. Henry H. Goodeve. Dr. Chakarbati was an example to his countrymen of the fact that true eminence as a scientific physician is attainable by the natives of India. I believe that the tidings of his death were received with regret by every person in the College, in which he taught for 24 years. The Council unanimously decided that the College should be closed on one of his lecture days, as a public expression of sorrow and of esteem for his memory."

FRIDAY, 18TH JUNE.

THE BANGALORE EXAMINER states that three native gentlemen of Mysore have been honored by the British Government since it has been under its administration. The first was T. Ramasawmy Moodelliar, who was Secretary to the British Resident in the Court of Mysore in the early part of this century. In addition to being presented with the valuable Jaghir of Sevasamoodrum by the Governments of Madras and Mysore he had the title of "Jana Oopakara Kurtha" or Benefactor of the People conferred on him by Lord William Bentinck the then Governor General; he also received a valuable ring from William IV. The second was Mr. Vencata Row, Native Assistant to the Chief Commissioner, concerning whom the following notification by the Government of Madras was issued in 1838 :

"*Fort Saint George April* 19, 1838.—The Right Honorable the Governor General of India having taken into his consideration the eminent zeal, ability and integrity displayed by Vencata Row in his capacity of Native Assistant to the Commissioner for the Territories of the Rajah of Mysore, has been pleased as a mark of the favor of the British Government, to bestow upon him the Title of Rai Raaya Rai; and the same is hereby notified for general information by order of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council."

The last is Mr. Govind Chetti, upon whom the title of Rai Bahadur has been conferred by the Viceroy and Governor General in consideration of his public-spirited liberality.

SIR SALAR JUNG, it is stated, with a view to encourage education among the people, of Hyderabad has notified that all pupils attending the Government schools and passing the prescribed examinations will be guaranteed appointments in the service, and will receive stipends during the period of instruction.

WE TAKE the following extract from the Cabul letter of the *Delhi Gazette* :

"The Amir received an urzee from Ursulla Khan Ghilzaee, and General Ghoolam Heider Khan from the camp at Lallpoorah. It was as follows :—

Nouroze Khan Mohmund has sent his Vakeels several times with a request to have matters settled with the Amir, but we have not given him any reply. The Mohmund chief is willing to send his son as hostage to Cabul and to pay for all the losses the merchants have sustained. Nouroze Khan does not wish to be appointed Khan of Lallpoorah, but to live as one of the subjects of the Amir.

The Amir ordered a letter to be sent to Ursulla Khan, Ghilzaee, telling him to have a cantonment built at Lallpoorah for troops and not to give any reply to the Mohmund chief until further orders."

THEY MANAGE things decidedly better in France. Paris, it is stated, is now a city of flowers. A local correspondent says that the enormous profusion of flowering trees, now in their glory, has made this beautiful capital more beautiful than ever, giving it the look of a huge bouquet. The busy and usually-prosaic Avenue des Ternes, for example, has been planted, on both sides, since the war, with a row of white acacias just coming into full blossom from one end to the other, and the effect of such a double line of feathery green foliage and white flowers for a quarter of a mile, under the bright sun and blue sky is striking in the extreme. The other street perspectives are said to be equally striking. In Calcutta we have spent about Rs. 10,000 on flower plants for avenues, but where are they with the exception of a few plants in palatial Chowringhee?

THE ARCHBISHOP of York makes the following graceful acknowledgment to Raja Amir Hossein Khan of Mamudabad, Oudh, for his exertions to perpetuate the memory of Colonel Thompson, His Grace's brother :

Bishopthorpe York, April, 15*th* 1875.—The Archbishop of York has the honour to convey to the Rajah of Mahmoodabad, on behalf of himself and his family, their grateful sense of the step that is being taken of providing a monument to the memory of his dear lamented brother, Colonel Edward Thompson, C. S. I., late Officiating Commissioner of Sitapur.

That this monument should be provided mainly by Asiatic gentlemen in that district is particularly gratifying to the family, since it shows the good feeling that existed between him as representing the Government, and the inhabitants of the country. The Archbishop knows well that Colonel Thompson had a most sincere respect and good will towards all the inhabitants of all classes, and desired to promote their welfare. This renders the form of monument that has been adopted peculiarly suitable; and when the many travellers who will hereafter drink from the well at Khyrabad quench their thirst at this fountain, they will recall the name of one who wished well to their race and who had no greater desire than that of working for their good.

The Archbishop of York begs to tender heartfelt thanks to the Rajah for the part he has taken in this matter, and he requests him to be so good as to take means to convey to the rest of the promoters of this monument the thanks of Colonel Thompson's father, and of the Archbishop and other members of his family.

WITH REFERENCE to our remarks on the experiment of Gurjunoil as a specific for leprosy tried in the Leper Asylum of Calcutta we are informed that so far as it has gone on, it has proved successful to a certain extent. The primary symptoms have disappeared in many cases, and the patients have regained health.

THE BOMBAY Town Corporation has refused to make any grant from the Municipal fund for the reception of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The Corporation is quite right. The law does not authorize it to sanction such an appropriation. Why should not the general public come

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forward with voluntary subscriptions for the demonstration of their loyalty ?

SATURDAY, 19TH JUNE.

THE ENGLISHMAN HEARS that the connection of Mr. Robert Knight with the Bengal Secretariat will cease at the end of this month, that gentleman having resigned his appointment. Mr. Knight was, it is added offered another appointment, as Registrar-general of Statistics to the Government of Bengal, with increased emoluments ; but he declined the offer, as he did not approve of travelling from place to place, a necessity which the duties of this appointment would entail on him. It was a mistake on the part of the Government to have put Mr. Knight in the anomalous position he occupied in the Bengal Secretariat, and on that of Mr. Knight to have accepted it. Such an unnatural relation was destined to come to an end sooner or later. We are curious to know when has a Registrar General of Statistics been sanctioned for Bengal.

HAVING RESIGNED the Government service Mr. Knight has evidently recovered the balance of his mind. This morning's *Friend of India* contains a handsome apology to Lord Northbrook in respect of his Lordship's Famine policy. We make the following extracts from it :

"It was unjust to Lord Northbrook, and it was unworthy of ourselves, to say that he came down from Simla with any but the purest compassion towards the people and sense of duty to the State. We do not seriously believe that it was jealousy of Sir George Campbell that brought him down, but a strong sense of public duty, and we are sorry that we should have said what was so unjust. There was little personal sympathy between the two Governments, but we feel that it was unjust to lay all the blame of that upon Lord Northbrook. For invaluable a man as Sir George is, he is not easy to work with, either as a colleague or a subordinate, for, in spite of his great qualities, he provokes opposition and dislike. It was unjust, therefore, to lay all the blame of the coldness between the two Governments upon the Viceroy."

"Sir George Campbell should undoubtedly have a full share of the honors which Her Majesty may be advised to bestow in connection with this famine, but it is the special praise of Lord Northbrook that he is the first Viceroy who has dealt with famine in the right spirit. The success with which his resolution that "the people should not die" was attended, will mark a distinct era in human progress ; and that his name will be linked therewith for all time, is a distinction so honorable and so blessed that it may well be envied. We have now tried to do more justice to Lord Northbrook than we did before, and to set our conscience at rest upon the point."

Mr. Knight deserves praise for this candour. If he had studied the famine question in the same candid spirit before he would not have seared his conscience in the manner he did.

NOTHING, says the *Freind of India*, could be more characteristic of Sir Richard Temple than the expedition into Sikkim from which he returned on the 8th of this month. Uninvited, unannounced, and almost unattended, he made a dash into that little frontier State, pushed through the valleys, more hot and insect-haunted than any part of the plains, climbed the hills, and before the Raja could hear of the honour done to his principality, the raid was over, and Sir Richard had regained Darjeeling.

THE PEOPLE of the Punjab, it is stated, propose to contribute two lakhs of rupees towards the cost of the Prince of Wales' tour in that part of the country.

IT IS RUMOURED that Mr. Wade has received a telegram from the Home Government announcing the relegation of the Yunan difficulty by the Home Government to the Governor-General of India. More is meant than meets the ear. Is India to be saddled with the cost of another China war ?

SYUD AHMED has realized the dream of his life. He has formally opened the Mahomedan College at Bareilly, for the establishment of which he has labored incessantly for the last three years.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Friend of India* makes the following disclosures regarding the Government connection with the Press :

"It will perhaps interest you to hear that during the *regime* of Lord Mayo, an attempt was made, by letters and otherwise to seduce the—into publishing articles *written by members of the Government*. "Early intelligence was offered that traditional bribe of an Indian Governor when dealing with an Editor, and even a more decided form of subsidy. The member of the Government who attempted to thus negotiate with Mr.——told him that the lenders would be strictly on political subjects, and that he must receive them without any questions as to their authorship, Mr.——was to have right of private *entree* at Government House, and early news from Cabul and the Gulf, here civil war was then raging. The editor politely refused the offer, and large number of official essays on the politics of that time have consequently been lost.

We had heard the story at the time. If we were informed aright the editor plied upon was Mr. Routledge of the *Friend*, and the member of Government, who negociated was Sir John Strachey. We hope we were misinformed. Of course Mr. Routledge politely declined the offer.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, 11th June. The Sultan of Zanzibar landed yesterday at Westminister, when Mr. Bourke read an address on the part of Government welcoming him. His Highness was afterwards visited by Lord Derby and was present at the race for the Aseot Cup.

Madrid, 13th June.—A terrible earthquake, attended with great loss of life, has occurred at Cucuta in the valley of New Granada.

London, 16th June.—Alexander Collie and Co., of London and Manchester, have suspended payment ; liabilities three millions.

An announcement made by the *Univers*, of a Concordat between Russia and the Vatican, has been contradicted. It is believed friendly relations exist between the Czar and the Pope.

New York, 15th June,—The report of the Agricultural Bureau for June states that the present crop is the best that has been known for the last five years, excepting 1872. The acreage under cotton cultivation has been increased two per cent., and although planted late the growth is comparatively good and unusually clean.

WE HAVE received the following letter from a correspondent :

"The Government is, as you say, certainly a Paragraph Government. I was the other day at the Railway Station Nyehatty and heard respectable people complaining that their Registration Office was to be removed to Rajibpur a place they have never come across, and that their representations against the proposed changes become fruitless. An officer on the lowest rung of the official ladder says the change is feasible and all the officers above him says ditto. Maps executed at great expense are quite useless. If the authorities will only see and enquire how poor people living along the E.B. Railway will find means to go to Rajibpur they must ponder, cart tracks during day and swamps during wet weather are the means of communications. Will you not open the eyes of the authorities?"

Yours truly,
ONE DISINTERESTED.

THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS has at last come to the conclusion that Lord Mayo was "the most incompetent Viceroy that ever attempted to rule an empire from dinner-tables and ball-rooms." Did not our contemporary repeatedly fall foul of the Native Press when it stated the plain truth about the late Viceroy, whilst he was living ?

THE ENGLISHMAN recommends the re-appointment of Mr. Thomas Jones to the office of Assistant Secretary to the Bengal Government *vice* Mr. Knight resigned. We second our contemporary. Mr. Jones was not fairly treated by Sir George Campbell.

MR. GRIBBLE, the Bengal Post Master General, is acting vigorously. He has suspended his Head-clerk an Eurasian, for grave irregularities, and appointed Babu Denonath Sen, the City Inspector, to act for him. Babu Denonath is reputed to be an intelligent, active and experienced officer, and we congratulate Mr. Gribble upon his choice.

THE FOLLOWING ominous telegram comes from Burma :

Rangoon 18th June.—It is rumoured here, with some appearance of truth, that large numbers of Chinese troops are being concentrated at Manwyne,

We hope His Golden-footed Majesty is not going mad.

MORE CRASH in England :

London 18th June.—The following firms have suspended payment: Young Borthwick & Co., Bill Brokers. John Strachan & Co., Bishopsgate Street. J. C. Fowlie & Co., Leadenhall Street. John Anderson & Co., Philpot Lane. J. C. Westhead & Co., Manchester. Other minor failures have occurred.

We hope India will be spared the effects of this disaster.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications and periodicals—1 Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India for the month of March 1874-75 and for the twelve months ending 31st March 1874-75. 2. Report of the Police Administration in the Province of Oudh for 1874. 3. Records of the Geological Survey of India, vol. VIII. Part 2. 4. Lord Northbrook and his Mission in India. A Lecture delivered before the Burra Bazar Family Literary Club on the 25th of June 1872. By Gosto Behary Mullick. 5. Practical Reasons, why Life Assurance in the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company Limited, should be universally adopted specially by the Natives of India 6. Prosad Prasunga or an Essay on the writings of the late Ramprosad Sen with a memoir of his life and a collection of his songs. 7. Hirakchurna Natuk or the Diamond Dust, a drama in Five Acts. By an Actor. 8. Papar Pratifala a drama by Kadar Nath Ghose. B. A. B. L. 9. Tamlook Patrika, a monthly Bengali Journal of literature and review, vol II. No. I. for Boisakh 1282 B. S 10. Bunga Mohila a monthly Bengali Journal vol. I. No 2. for Joisto 1282 B. S. 11. Subdakulpadruma or Sir Raja Radhakant Deb's Sanskrit Dicticnary vol. III. No. 6. (second edition.)

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JUNE 21, 1875.

THE LEGAL STATUS OF INDIAN PRINCES.

WHAT is the legal status of the Native Princes of India in relation to the British Government ? Are they independent in the sense in which an independent state is understood in the language of the European law of nations ? Are they "protected" and do they owe allegiance to the Paramount Power ? Are they governed by the English law like a common British subject in this country, or are they independent of that law ? The origin of the relations of the Indian princes with the British Government is as anomalous as that of the British Empire in the East. The English came to this country as traders, and have by a fortuitous combination of circumstances become its masters. Clive and Hastings did not for a moment dream that they would be the founders of an empire, which would give England far greater power than the external conquests of Rome ever gave it to her. The growth and development of this Empire are unparalleled in the history of the progress of nations. As it has grown and advanced it has necessarily trenched upon the powers and rights of the Native Princes. In the early days of the English in India they made these princes instruments for the extension of their territory. With some they fought ; with others they made alliance for fighting those who were opposed to them ; some they assisted in repelling external attacks and others in putting down internal risings against themselves. The appearance of the English on the theatre of Indian warfare was the signal of a revolution. The Great Mogul had lost his power and prestige. He had surrendered his sovereign rights to them and become a pensioner upon their bounties. The great Maharatta powers were arrayed against each other and ultimately fell a victim to the British lion. The Rajpootana princes fared no better. The supremacy of the English was thus undisputed. But in their early intercourse with the Native Princes they did not assert that paramountcy which events have secured to them. All the treaties between the East India Company and the Native Princes acknowledge them as allies with equal powers and rights. It is true that as time advanced, and the British Government acquired thorough ascendancy within the Indian continent, it became its virtual Dictator. For their own safety and the stability of their own dominions the English insisted in almost every treaty with the Native States upon the reduction of their military strength, and thus deprived them of the means of asserting their rights as independent nationalities or communities. They undertook to protect them from external and internal attacks and thus they became as it were a common protector. If the Indian Princes had any vitality in them, they would not certainly have consented to take that humiliating position. Practically they placed themselves in the position of dependants upon the British Government. They had no feeling of unity among themselves ; they quarelled with each other, and as usual disputes ended in loss to both parties, while the third party, John Company, gained. It could not be denied that some of the existing Native States would have by this time been swept off, if the British had not come to their rescue. It is not necessary for our present purpose to enquire whether the dealings of the British Government with the Native States always shewed a clean hand—history has already recorded its verdict upon that point. One thing however could not be denied—we mean the steady progress and ascendancy of the English nation in the East. In the first epoch of their progress the English sought only to aggrandize their own power, to bind the Indian Princes to treaties of offensive and defensive alliance, to pave the way to their dictatorship. In the second epoch they established the system of Residency, the object of which was to have a direct control over the movements of the Native States. It was distinctly understood that the Residents would not interfere with the internal administration of the Native States ; they were to be what the plenipotentiaries or ambassadors of European States were in Foreign Courts; they were simply accredited agents, acting as media of communication between the British Government and the Native State. The Princes in their turn were represented in the English capital by Vakils designate ; but this condition of things did not continue long. The English are everywhere aggressive, and although the British Resident had received no authority to

interfere with the internal working of the State to which he was accredited, he gradually insinuated himself into the position of a co-partner as it were in the State. Indeed, he has through the weakness of the Native Prince and the tacit support of the British Government become a greater personage in the State than the sovereign himself. There is no law, no treaty which gives him that power, but the fact cannot be ignored, and woe be to that Prince, who dares ignore it!

Gradually have the British so far changed the law of the Native States as it applied to European British subjects. They have ruled that Englishmen domiciled in the territories of Indian Princes shall be tried by the law of their own country, and judges appointed by their own Government. "If the settlement," says Lord Kingsdown in a Privy Council judgment, "had been made in a Christian country of Europe, the settlers would have become subject to the laws of the country in which they settled." Again: "The laws and usages of Eastern countries where Christianity does not prevail," continues Lord Kingsdown in the judgment just referred to, "are so at variance with all the principles, feelings and habits of European Christians, and that they have usually been allowed by the indulgence or weakness of the potentates of those countries to retain the use of their own laws, and their factories have for many purposes, been treated as part of the territory of the sovereign from whose dominions they come." The British Government has also obtained the consent of the Indian Princes to the enactment of laws permitting the enforcement of decrees against British subjects within the limits of their own territories, making the Native States responsible for Indian Postal Mail robberries, requiring them to give up proclaimed offenders, abolishing transit duties within the same, and providing for a few other privileges of this description. Thus by steps slow but sure the British Government is quietly bringing the Native States under the control of the English law.

The East India Company, as we have observed above, treated the Native Princes as allies on an equal footing, but the position has changed since the Queen has assumed the direct government of the country. Lord Canning first conceived the idea of the Paramountcy of British rule in the East. He could not of course change the treaties and engagements, but he devised a powerful means of neutralizing their effects. Many of the Native Princes as the reader is aware rendered signal service to the British Government in the dark days of the Sepoy Mutiny. Indeed, were it not for their loyal support, the struggle to which our Government was doomed would have been much more prolonged. Lord Canning felt deeply grateful to them, and resolved to reward their services. His Lordship gave away estates to them with a princely liberality. There was such a rivalry among them to obtain this recognition of the favor of the Paramount Power that the prince who did not get it considered himself personally wronged. We may mention one notable instance. While the Scindia obtained a rich reward the Holkar did not receive any, and to this day the latter is sulky because his services have not been suitably acknowledged. Then Lord Canning established the Exalted Order of the Star of India, and appointed the leading Native Princes as Grand Knights Commanders. The right of adoption enjoyed by the Native Princes had received a rude shock from the ruthless hand of Lord Dalhousie, and great discontent consequently prevailed among them. Lord Canning admitted the justice of the complaint, and issued his now celebrated Adoption Sanad. The terms of the Sanad were as follows:

"Her Majesty being desirous that the Governments of the several Princes and Chiefs of India who now govern their own territories, should be perpetuated, and that the representation and dignity of their Houses should be continued, I hereby, in fulfilment of this desire, convey to you the assurance that on failure of natural heirs, the adoption by yourself and future rulers of your State of a successor according to Hindoo law and to the customs of your race will be recognized and confirmed.

Be assured that nothing shall disturb the engagements thus made to you so long as your House is loyal to the Crown and faithful to the conditions of the Treaties, Grants, or Engagements which recorded its obligations to the British Government.

By the terms of this Sanad, coupled with the rewards for Mutiny services and the Star of India, the Native Princes without distinction were at once reduced to the position of feudatory of the British Crown. From this day we may say the Native potentates by tacit consent became vassals of the British Power.

It is perhaps now too late to contest the position to which the Native Princes have suffered themselves to be reduced. But whatever their present relation to the British Crown, Her Gracious Majesty the Queen has engaged to respect and observe the treaty obligations subsisting between the British Government and the Native potentates. These treaties have secured the latter sovereign rights, and any restriction to their rights would be a flagrant breach of these treaties. It is true that fidelity to the Crown is the foundation of security for these rights. But whilst the Native Princes continue "loyal to the Crown," is it consistent with the treaties to deprive them of sovereign rights by making the Political Resident a co-partner of the State as it were? The legal status of the Native Princes is defined by the treaties, and our Government cannot interfere with their freedom of action without rendering itself open to a charge of breach of faith. The Baroda controversy, we submit, shews the necessity of revising the relations of the British Resident with the Native potentates, which will be neither sound nor satisfactory until that functionary is relegated to his proper place.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

ONCE more the cry is—"Down with the Vernacular Press!" Its tone on the Baroda question has given its enemies a handle, and some writers consider it a fair ground for gagging the organs of native opinion. The crusade has been opened by an ex-Indian editor. Mr. Caldwell, a quandom editor of the *Madras Athenæum and Daily News*, has raised the hue and cry. He bases his claim to take the lead in this matter on the fact that he was once connected with that paper, and with a vernacular paper called the *Janavinodini*, the name of which we hear now for the first time. With his experience thus acquired he has come to the conclusion that "the organs of native opinion—with, of course, honourable exceptions—seem to be overstepping all bounds of reason and turning their free liberty into foul license; and yet the Government of India appears to be taking no steps to put a stop to the virulent plague." This is a sweeping condemnation, but does it tally with the opinions recorded by the several local Governments? Sir Bartle Frere than whom few could lay claim to a better knowledge of the people of this country, their sentiments, and feelings, at the time of his retirement from the Government of Bombay, thus spoke of the Native Press: "I find among the educated natives, who are independent of Government service, the strongest appreciation of the benefits of British rule. It is not among the best educated natives that we generally find the warm admirers of native misrule or those who sigh for the restoration of effete dynasties. This is remarkably evident in the native press, which, from being generally in the hands of educated natives writing anonymously, would naturally betray, if it existed, any prevalent spirit of disloyalty to the British Government. But I bear willing testimony to the fact that whatever may be its defects in other respects, the usual spirit of the native press in this presidency is one of spontaneous respect for, and sympathy with the British Government. Individual rulers may be criticised severely, perhaps unjustly; but as regards the Government at large, the prevailing tone of the native press is at least as respectful as in England, and its criticism is often expressed with remarkable ability." Sir William Muir in the last Administration Report of the North Western Provinces thus wrote: "On the whole, the Native Press of the North Western Provinces exerts an influence for good. The intelligence which it diffuses is often inexact, and it is extremely deficient in critical power; but its tendency is useful in rousing a spirit of enquiry and in directing the attention of the people to public questions. Sir W. Muir has acknowledged the assistance which the Government has not unfrequently received from the vernacular newspapers in the detection of faults and the correction of abuses. It must also be added that the Native Press in the North Western Provinces is almost always on the side of loyalty and morality." The last Administration Report of Bengal contains the following remarks: "Sir Richard Temple is glad to be able to say that the general tone of the Vernacular Press (though disfigured by occasional excesses) is decidedly loyal and well disposed towards Government, although the numerous newspapers are distinguished by remarkble independence of criticism. It is noteworthy that the Native Press has consistently recognised and appreciated the exertions made by Government in averting famine from the country, and has evinced the utmost gratitude for the results which have been attained in this behalf." Such is the opinion on the Vernacular Press recorded by the responsible rulers of the country. And yet we are told by this "wise man" from the East that it is "a virulent plague." We are only surprised that the *Times* has allowed such stuff to be inserted in its columns, thereby creating a most mischievous prejudice in the English mind against the Vernacular Press of India.

Judged by the opinions of three such distinguished Indian administrators as Sir Bartle Frere, Sir William Muir, and Sir Richard Temple, the general conduct of the Vernacular Press cannot be justly censured, and yet we are told by such a respectable and well-informed paper as the *Pall Mall Gazette* that "the conduct of the Native newspapers in India and the kind of writing which is to be met with almost daily in them has for some time past afforded matter for grave consideration to those who are best acquainted with India and its people, and the question is already being asked in many quarters whether the Indian Government is wise in permitting the wholesale dissemination of sedition among the Queen's Indian subjects without any effort to check it."

We again ask the impartial reader to consider whether this wholesale denunciation of the Vernacular Press is consistent with the opinions quoted above. If the Vernacular Press is "crammed with treason against the Government," is not the law strong enough to punish it? Lord Mayo considered that the Penal Code was not sufficient for this purpose, and so he passed Mr. Fitzjames Stephen's Seditious Words Bill. If the Vernacular Press is disseminating sedition, why is not that law enforced? We admit that the Vernacular Press has many imperfections, but we are not prepared to admit that it only preaches sedition. It may strongly criticize both measures and men, but lawful and constitutional criticism does not imply disloyalty. This point we endeavoured to elucidate fully in our controversy with Sir George Campbell in reference to the criticisms of this journal of his policy and administration. It is very natural for men in authority, whose measures or actions are criticized, to be displeased with those, who pass such criticisms, and their displeasure is intensified when the critics happen to be "niggers," but is it right to identify particular officers with the Crown? Whether criticisms on such officers imply hostility or disloyalty to the Government it is for a court of law to decide, and we think that if the Government really believes that comments on its officers would incite rebellion, it ought to try that issue in a competent court of justice. Such a course would have one great advantage. It would result in a judicial interpretation of the Liberty of the Press conceded to the people of India contra-distinguished from those of other British possessions. Our own opinion is that with the exception of one or two papers the general tone of the Vernacular Press on this side of India is reasonable, moderate, and thoroughly loyal—and if the Government wishes to punish the black sheep, by all means let it do so with the means and appliances which the existing law amply provides, but it would be monstrous if it were to put the whole Vernacular Press in fetters for the faults of the unthinking few.

As for the tone of the Vernacular Press on the Baroda question, we are free to confess that it has in several cases exceeded the bounds of fair comment. This remark applies as much to Bengal as to Bombay. But the *Pall Mall Gazette* itself supplies a plea of justification. It says:

"It may well seem intolerable to some minds that a license of treasonable writing which we have rigorously checked

in Ireland should be permitted in India and no doubt a distinction may, and indeed must in the last resort, be drawn by every Government between mere disaffected railing at its policy or character, and downright denial of its authority and claim to rule. But the question of occasion is of the highest importance in any interference with the expression of public opinion and we cannot conceal for ourselves that there could be no worse occasion for such interference than the present.

The truth is that the Indian Government has by its own unfortunate acts precluded itself from adopting a new and more vigorous policy just at present, since the gains of doing so would be less than the immediate loss. The effects of Lord Northbrook's blunder are, in fact, continuing, and the Indian Government are even now reaping only its first fruits. They have given to a violent and seditious press a plausible ground of attack upon them, and to whatever excesses those attacks may be carried, it would only make matters worse if the Government, unless under the pressure of immediate danger to the public peace, were to enter upon any active course of retaliation. Already they have given the Native newspapers, an excuse—not just, indeed, but unfortunately far too specious—for saying that the Indian Government formed the deliberate design of crushing an obnoxious Native prince; that they attempted to twist the forms of law to this end; and that, having failed in this, they had recourse to a pretext for ruining him, which involved a distinct breach of the Imperial faith. This is what the Indian Government have put it in the power of the Native newspapers to assert, and they must bear as best they may the consequences of their own errors. To lay the strong hand upon Native newspapers just at the moment when we have furnished them with what will appear such legitimate grounds for hostile remark would merely be making bad worse. It would be said that under pretence of repressing seditious writing we were attempting to silence damaging criticism, and that the liberty of expression which we profess to concede to Indian opinion was as unreal and illusory a privilege as the right to a fair trial on the English system which we professed to concede to the Gaekwar. The practical conclusion of the *Daily News* on the whole matter is one which, though not perhaps for the same reasons, we are forced to accept. It is undoubtedly better for us at present, at any rate, to "look boldly at our position as strangers and conquerors in India, and to acknowledge that expressions of dissatisfaction are evils which should not surprise us but should be patiently borne with until we have had time to reconcile the people to our rule." The situation is not a little humiliating, as that of a Government always is which has to bear with indignities because it is not able to resent them; but it is true enough that the "patient" attitude is the only one at present possible to us. It might be gratifying to the Viceroy to attempt to correct the effects of an act of weakness by an act of vigor; but it must be remembered that it is not so much as an act of weakness that the Baroda blunder presents itself to the imagination of the Natives of India. To them it has had too much the appearance of an act of unscrupulous policy such as they are familiar with among their own princes, but have never in recent times had a pretence for imputing to their English rulers; it has impaired our reputation for strict justice in our dealings with Native subjects and feudatories; and a reputation of that sort is not to be retrieved, but is only likely to be more deeply compromised by a sudden return to the methods of "strong government," of the autocratic kind."

"Hardly ever has a sharper lesson been read to a Viceroy of India, and Lord Northbrook or his successors must be unteachable indeed if they do not profit by it. In the meantime we have to recover in India our reputation for firmness and justice, and a first step to this will be the final abandonment of that ill-advised attempt to combine the liberal and autocratic methods of government, whereby our policy has seemed mere weakness while we played the Liberal ruler, and has resembled downright injustice when we resumed the autocrat. Next, we have to free our hands for dealing strongly and sharply, if the occasion should arise, with what threatens to be a serious danger to our rule—the seditious writing of the Native journals; and a first step to this will be to supply them with no more blunders to attack."

Now, we do not at all accept the arguments or conclusions of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. We deny that the Vernacular Press is seditious, that it is "an element of danger to the British Government." If light is dangerous to darkness, then is the Vernacular Press an "element of danger to the British Government," but we cannot believe that our Government wishes to shun the light, and it cannot therefore consider the Vernacular Press an element of danger. But there is another side of the picture which the *Pall Mall Gazette* has not touched. With regard to the Baroda question, have not some of the principal Anglo-Indian papers written strongly, indeed more strongly than the worst native paper on the subject? The *Indu Prokash* is condemned because it questions the right of the British Government to treat the native Princes as feudatories, whereas in treaties subsisting between them they are called allies. But what did the *Times* say when the Baroda Commission was appointed? Did it not say that it was not justified by any law, treaty or convention—that it was simply an expression of the old doctrine, Might is Right. Read the columns of the *Englishman*, the *Times of India*, and the *Friend of India*, and we defy the reader to point out one passage in the Vernacular papers, the sentiment of which is stronger than the utterances in those papers. We do not of course include in this category the monstrous doctrine that difference of opinion, or systematic opposition, justifies an Indian prince to murder the Political Resident attached to his court. The journal which gave expression to that opinion stands alone in its glory. But the other Vernacular papers we may say have published nothing on the Baroda question stronger or worse than the leaders on the same subject published in the Anglo-Indian papers or even in such respectable and influential London papers as the *Times*, the *Spectator*, the *Examiner*—aye the *Pall Mall Gazette* itself. There is this difference between the two—the native writers are just learning to lisp, and there are therefore many defects in their manner of expression, whereas their English compeers are veterans and know how to follow Talleyrand's maxim—that language is given to man to conceal his thoughts. Example teaches better than precepts, and we may say without hesitation that if the Anglo-Indian and English papers had not set the example of free criticism on the Baroda question, the Vernacular papers would not have gone to the length they did. And yet with singular inconsistency the English writers are condemning the Vernacular papers, while they have not a word to say against the Anglo-Indian or English Press. At the same time we should impress upon our vernacular contemporaries the necessity of observing moderation and rigid adherence to truth in their comments on men and measures. Some of them are too apt to mistake violence for real strength, abuse for independence, and flippancy for wit; let them remember that such mistakes may cost them and the country dearly.

EMPLOYMENT OF NATIVES.

THIS question bids fair to become by and bye an embarassing question. Already there is a cry among the Junior Civilians in Northern India that the Government is guilty of breach of faith to them. In the Punjab and Oudh the military officers have encroached upon their ground. The Junior Civilians have memorialized the Secretary of State on the subject, and their memorial is backed by no less a personage than Mr. Robert Lowe, Mr. Gladstone's Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is stated that the Government of India has lately appointed a Committee to enquire into the grievances of the Junior Civilians. We will not anticipate the judgment of that Committee, but we may remark *en passant* that the dead-lock of which the Junior Civilians complain is entirely due to the thoughtlessness or want of foresight of the Government of India and the Secretary of State, if not something else. The reader is aware that there is annually a competitive examination held for the admission of the most successful candidates into the Indian Civil Service, and that on an average about 40 candidates are admitted every year. Now large as the Indian continent is, the rate at which Indian Civilians are multiplied annually is too rapid for healthy development. As in the bar there has been a block owing to the rapid multiplication of the tribe of pleaders, so in the Civil Service there has been a dead-lock in promotion owing to over-crowding. We had predicted this result long ere this, but the Government did not pay any attention to our warning. The annual procreation of Indian Civilians is so fast, and the young ones thus brought into being are now so numerous and so hungry that they threaten to swallow up their parent—the Government of India. Such is the practical result of the present unrestricted competitive examination. If the Government is wise, it should yet take warning. Let it limit the number of prizes to be competed for or what would be still better, let it make the examination biennial, or triennial as it may be deemed expedient. The supply at the present rate is far outstripping the demand.

There is another point in the memorial of the Junior Civilians which affects the question of the employment of natives. By the statute of the 33rd Victoria the Government of India is empowered to appoint Native Indians to covenanted posts without subjecting them to an examination, and the measure they apprehend, will still more reduce their prospects of promotion. They therefore consider this statute as an act of breach of faith. Of course no court of law would admit such a charge as they have brought against Her Majesty's Government, and the *Pioneer*, the advocate of the Civilians, wiser than its clients has shifted the position altogether, and seek to defeat the Act of Parliament upon a new ground. It does not deny the justice of the measure—referring to a previous article it says, "we gave it as our opinion that no claims of the covenanted services would stand in the way of any scheme the Government might propose, and further that native candidates for employment had a right to demand that the power in question should be exercised as extensively as possible, subject only to such limitation as might be imposed by a regard to the efficient conduct of our administration and the welfare of the great mass of our Indian subjects." Of course no reasonable man can dispute the propriety or justness of this limitation, but the deductions which our contemporary has drawn from his train of reasoning are amusing. The Natives are not fit to be Magistrates, Collectors, or Judges—they may be tolerated as Registrars or at the most as Registrar General, there being not more than three covenanted gentlemen in the Registration Department in Bengal. and we believe less in the North Western Provinces, the Punjab, and the other provinces.

Our contemporary is kind enough to say, that "to begin with, there are certain appointments for which we think it is quite possible to train up natives, and which we would gladly see after a little time reserved for them exclusively. We mean appointments such as those in the departments of accounts, stamps, customs, opium, and registration, which require only such intelligence and business habits as are common both to the native and the European, and in which indeed the native is frequently found to excel. We are well aware that certain of these appointments, owing to their being highly paid, to their involving residence at the seat of the Local Government, and to their leaving to the incumbent a considerable amount of leisure, are regarded as prizes by many members of the covenanted services; but, as we have already observed, this is a matter of compensation to be settled between those services, and the Government, and we would accordingly say that such appointments, wherever it is possible, should be filled by natives." We need hardly remind the reader that the number of civilians employed in these departments is very limited—that the Accounts branch forms a district branch, and that promotion in that department is very slow. Let us now return to what our contemporary calls the "great class of executive appointments—the posts of magistrate, and collector, deputy commissioner, and such like." He says, "Natives have not the energy, independence, and force of character required for such posts, and there are not many persons who would advocate their being appointed to them unless in some few exceptionally situated districts." Now, if natives could be employed as sub-divisional magistrates, we see no reason why they should be considered incompetent to take charge of entire districts. There may be particular districts, to which it may not be perhaps desirable to post them, but for the management of an ordinary district we do not know whether a native is less fitted than a European. But our contemporary gives most amusing reasons for not giving even the judicial appointments to Native Civilians. Hitherto the opinion among our Civilian rulers was that the Natives might fitly be appointed District Judges, but this advocate would not show them even this indulgence. This knowing writer says, that notwithstanding the great development of law which has taken place within the last fifteen years under the action both of the Legislature and of the High Courts, the amount of legal knowledge required of a district judge is, except at some of the great trade centres, still very small—so small as to form but a comparatively inconsiderable item in the qualifications requisite for the post. In other words a district judge need not know much law. If the present class of district judges are ignorant of law, it is the Government and not they, who are to blame. For, says the *Pioneer*, "whatever shortcomings may have been observable of late years in this particular have been due solely to the fact that the growth of the law has been somewhat too sudden for the older judges." What an excuse! It is only a civilian who can make such an excuse for brother civilians, and a Civilian

Government can tolerate it. But this is not all. The writer says :

"It is one of the greatest drawbacks to a localized system of judicature that the Judges are unable to rise above the mists of prejudice and party feeling which perpetually hang around them. In England this danger is so strongly felt that it was until recently, and we believe still is, thought better to allow the country court Judges to reside in London, or wherever else they may choose, at the risk of a good deal of public inconvenience, than to compel them to live within their circuits subject to the local influences of the neighbourhood. That we do not hear more of this danger in France, where the judicial system is thoroughly localized, is no doubt owing to the fact that there all cases except those of the most petty description are heard by benches consisting of several judges. In India our judicial system is completely localized, and from the extent and physical aspects of the country, if for no other reason, it must always continue to be so. Moreover, all our courts except the highest are officered, and we trust will always continue to be officered, by single judges. Most of the elements of the danger to which we refer are accordingly present in full force. If we have hitherto escaped that danger, it is simply because the judges of our higher local courts have been strangers in a state of the most complete social isolation, and absolutely without sympathy for the most ardent party feeling which might be raging about them. But how will it be if natives are appointed?"

Now, does the picture drawn by our contemporary bear any resemblance to truth? Notwithstanding the isolation of the district judges, how often has the intimacy of the Judge or Magistrate with the Indigo planter given rise to public scandal, and where there is no planter, how often does the District Judge participate the prejudices and feelings of the station? As for the Native Judge we are free to confess that his only weakness is to please the sahib—however able, strong-minded, and independent, he cannot always resist the pressure from above. This feeling will however cease to operate when he will be placed in an independent position, and will realize his own responsibility. Treat a man as a slave and he will never learn to breathe as a free man. It is the same with the Native in the enforcement of official responsibility. If you will always keep him in leading strings, he will never learn to run alone.

Not only does the *Pioneer* contend that a Native has no independence, but says that his so-called special qualifications as a judge of facts is "moonshine." The writer says :

"We are well aware that some respectable authorities can be cited in favor of the position that natives are superior as judges of fact to Europeans ; but we believe that these authorities will be found for the most part to date from a period at which our judicial system was at least in practice something widely different from what it is now. That natives are superior to Europeans in this respect under our present system we cannot for one moment admit. The truth is, natives are skilful enough in getting at the facts of a case provided you allow them to adopt their own mode of investigation. Send a native police officer into a village, let him take up his abode there for two or three days, give him full time and opportunity to warm himself into the confidence of the people, or to bully them around, or adopt whatever other course he may think best, and he will probably bring back information which a European would utterly fail to obtain. We will go further and give a native judicial officer a case to try, and let him deal with it in the good old style, allowing it a year or so to develop itself. Let him meantime become intimately acquainted with all concerned, whether as parties or witnesses, meeting them at odd times and at odd corners, and paternally discussing the matter with them. Let him, moreover, receive information through all sorts of indirect channels, and if he is an honest man he will probably be more successful in getting at the facts than Europeans would. But seat the same native on the bench with the Procedure Code and Evidence Act in his hands, put the parties and witnesses before him all at arm's length, and direct him to hear the case straight off according to our present system, and the result will probably be a complete failure. His cross-examination will be feeble in the extreme, he will have no eye for the weak points of a forged document, his inferences of fact will be childish and absurd ; in short, he will be found wanting in all those qualities of quickness of observation, energy, and soundness of judgment, for which the English judge is so distinguished, and which are absolutely essential to success under the English system. Nor are these deficiencies in the native judge likely to be supplied by the bar. The vast majority of the pleaders who practise in the local courts are natives, and they fail in precisely the same points as the native judge. On a point of law many of them are quite equal to the better class of European barristers in this country, but on an issue of fact a third-rate European pleader who speaks the language is more than a match for the best of them."

Perhaps the state of things which our contemporary describes may exist in the North-West, but we emphatically deny that it exists in Bengal. The appointment of four Natives to the Bench of the High Court successively shews that the people of this province do not at any rate come under the *Pioneer's* category. The High Court and the Government have repeatedly acknowledged that the Native Judiciary in Bengal is far superior to the European and this has been admitted by the latter themselves, who advocate a professional training for their body in order to be able to cope successfully with the subordinate bench and bar. If the state of things is different in the North West, it is because that the natives of that province have not received that training and culture, which their countrymen on this side of the country have received, and of which there seems to be so much jealousy.

OUR POSITION IN INDIA.

THE LAST number of the *Westminister Review* contains an interesting article on India under the above head. It is a summary of and commentary on the principal Indian topics, which have engaged public attention for the last few years. It has not been well digested, but the writer seems to have paid some attention to Indian matters, and generally entertains sound views regarding them. He begins by remarking : "It is becoming more and more apparent that our position in India is beset with serious difficulties, and that upon the manner in which these may be treated our power to hold the country is likely to depend. To secure for India a steady and persistent plan of administration must in the face of constant administrative changes, be a task of difficulty which would, however, be materially diminished were the capacity of the officials in India assisted and directed by an enlightened public opinion at home ; but the discreditable indifference to Indian affairs which prevails generally in England renders public opinion at home a very rotten reed indeed on which to rely." "For the mass of Englishmen India is little more than a name." Even of those Englishmen capable of appreciating English political history and progress, "not one in a thousand has a thought to cast to the East." But there is some glimmer of hope. "It augurs well for India," as the *Reviewer* remarks, "that its requirements are now regularly discussed by the leading English newspapers. Based on correct information, the opinions and criticisms of an able public press must be invaluable to India, and may if anything can rouse betimes the apathy and indifference of the English public." The *Reviewer's* opinion of the East Indian Association as an instrument for the diffusion of information regarding India seems to coincide with what we lately said regarding that body. He says : "The East Indian Association, which numbers many members of proven ability and long Indian experience, ought to be able to render some service to India ; not, however, by such action as their protest against the exclusion of Natives from the higher grades of the Civil Engineering Service, which the India Office met by a simple reference to patent facts showing no such exclusion to exist. If, avoiding such mistakes, and eschewing useless dissertations on economic laws and axioms disputed by nobody, this body would, in support of any of the many important measures needed, press upon the India Office specific recommendations, based on trustworthy evidence, the mere discussion of such proposals would benefit India."

In dwelling on Indian Finance the *Reviewer* condemns the abolition of the Income tax. He says : "We entirely concur with Sir John Strachey in thinking that the unpopularity of the income-tax was greatly exaggerated, and that the tax ought to have been at least maintained at a low rate as a permanent part of the financial system. Its abandonment we believe to have been an unwise concession to clamour, loud enough doubtless, for it came from the classes who could make themselves heard, and who had the means of enlisting advocacy some of which would ill bear analysis ; this clamour was, however, about the last to be really dangerous, but when to it was thrown into the scale the advocacy of government servants, whose denunciations of the tax remained no secret its repeal was insured, and thus was frustrated a measure certain on the first emergency to be found necessary, although the circumstances under which the tax was repealed must considerably aggravate the difficulty of reimposing it." The *Reviewer* has not evidently studied the history of the Income tax. Direct taxation is not suited to the genius of the people ; the subordinate agency from its position and character is too apt to oppress ; and the working of the Income tax shewed how it unjustly pressed upon the poor. If in practical operation it were as equitable as it is in theory, there could be no serious objection to its retention, but as the oppression of the poor could not be perfectly prevented, the Government we must confess acted most wisely by repealing it. Then the *Reviewer* goes on :

"It has become very much the fashion to describe India as an exceedingly poor country, though by what comparison a judgment has been, or is to be formed is never explained. If the resources of India are really insufficient to meet the requirements of her Government well and economically administered, then may be admitted the existence of poverty constituting a very serious question. But we believe in nothing of the kind ; we hold that overwhelming proof to the contrary is forthcoming. In the first place, no government supplied to India can fairly be termed economical which imposes an enormous drain on the resources of the country, and yet neglects the means of redressing the balance. This has been very much the condition of India, and Sir George Campbell, who can speak with the authority of long and varied Indian experience, service in the highest posts, unflagging industry, and great ability, has done well in pressing it, and other matters of importance to India, on the English public, and in pointing out, as he lately did at the Society of Arts, in proof of the absolute necessity of enabling India to increase her productions, the impossibility of her otherwise continuing to feed her own rapidly increasing population, to pay heavily for British manufactures, and to sustain an annual drain of nearly *fourteen millions sterling* received in England for services performed. Yet under even these exhausting conditions, there has been, as Sir J. Strachey allows, a great increase in the wealth of the country, evidenced by "the immense growth of trade, and the increase not only in the values, but in the quantities of exports of the great staples of Indian production." The mineral resources of India are of increasing value. Should the interesting experiment now going on in the province of Bengal prove successful, and show that iron smelting on a large scale can be made remunerative, the value of the ore, of which there is an abundance, will be greatly increased. Gold, too, is believed to have been found, in the Wynaad range of mountains in Madras, in quantities well repaying the cost of extraction. We look for early authoritative information on these points, and on another of probably greater importance—the supposed discovery of an immense seam of good workable coal, announced by Lord Salisbury in September last."

Looking from the *Reviewer's* stand-point we are inclined to go with him ; there is doubtless much room for economy, but the tendency of our financial policy has been increase of expenditure and extravagance. It is indeed remarkable that the people of India have been able to bear such a heavy burden and to endure such constant drainage, but it cannot be denied that as a nation they are poor. The bulk of them live from hand to mouth, and they necessarily feel much the pressure of taxation. It is not the "noisy class," who cry against taxation under the British Government, but the whole body of the people complain of it, and not a little of the discontent, which prevails among them, is due to it.

The *Reviewer* makes the following remarks on the treatment of Natives by their English rulers :

"Sir G. Campbell, at the Social Science Congress, expressed his belief that "the most successful men in the long run are always those who get on best with the Natives." He might with truth have added that the great majority of Europeans who succeed in India, and especially those who attain to high official distinction, are indebted to Natives for assistance, the value of which is too seldom acknowledged in India, and cannot be appreciated in England where it is not understood. We unhesitatingly endorse Sir G. Campbell's statement that in dealing with educated Natives, Englishmen now find themselves in a novel position, the requirements of which they hesitate to recognise and fulfil. In September last, there appeared in the *Times* a letter from a "Bengalee villager," replying to one in which the Natives of India had been mentioned in very disparaging terms. The Bengalee villager was evidently a well educated native of India, and his letter, described by the *Times* as "powerful and ingenious," attracted attention. It was in truth a remarkable production, and was noticed by the *Pall Mall Gazette* in terms to which we specially refer because we believe them to express correctly enough the feelings of a vast number of Englishmen employed in India, and because we are convinced that the indulgence of these feelings can bring little but evil to the Natives and to ourselves.

"Any one who will compare the two letters of the Canal Engineer and the Bengalee villager, will be able with little difficulty to understand some of the reasons why educated Englishmen and educated Bengalees do not like, and do not associate with each other. There is a real gulf between them, and the better they come to know each other the more they will feel it. The good points of the Englishman we all know, but he is a harsh, blunt, unsympathetic conqueror, and if he had been more plastic and sympathetic, he would probably never have done what he has."

The requirements of our position in India were well appreciated and described by one of the best administrators the Indian services have produced, the late Sir Henry Lawrence, when he deprecated "our arrogation to ourselves, even when we are notorious imbeciles, of all authority and all emolument ;" and when he added—"unless we treat Natives, and specially Native soldiers, as having much the same feelings, the same ambition, and the same preception of ability and imbecility as ourselves, we shall never be safe." The *Times* Calcutta correspondent lately gave an account of a remarkable Hindoo who had worked his way from a very humble position to a seat on the Bench of the High Court of Judicature in Bengal, and had become the honoured friend of many Englishmen of the highest social and intellectual position. It cannot reasonably be supposed hat India does not contain thousands and thousands able to

walk in the footsteps of this Hindoo, the late Mr. Justice Mitter, *provided* the opportunity be fairly given to them."

The *Reviewer* thus remarks on the new local cesses :

"It was stated before the Commons Select Committee by a high authority, the former Chief Commissioner of Oudh, Sir C. Wingfield, that the Government, in imposing certain local rates in that province, had broken faith with the landholders. Sir. J. Strachey, endeavours, unsuccessfully as we think, to show that this assertion is not borne out by the facts of the case, which briefly stated are these : Sir. C. Wingfield, when making the revenue settlement of Oudh, proposed that local rates, or cesses, should not be kept separate from the land revenue, when fixing the amount payable by the landholder, but that both cesses and land revenue should be included in one demand, the Government afterwards setting aside from the lump sum thus demanded any amount deemed necessary for local purposes. This proposal was made because " the levy of any cesses in addition to the Government demand proper, is viewed with great suspicion by the people who regard them as exactions to which no limit can be assigned. " The Government sanctioned the proposal, but after a time additional cesses were imposed, and the imposition was maintained to be justifiable on the ground that local cesses differ entirely in their nature from land revenue, and that although that the land revenue had been fixed at a certain amount not to be increased during the term (thirty years) of the settlement, nothing of the sort had been done with respect to cesses. To us it appears that the one object of Sir. C. Wingfield's proposal was to prevent any further demand on account of cesses during the term of the settlement, and that the language of his proposal admits of one other reasonable interpretation. We have only space for this brief description of the salient features of a case discussed by Sir. J. Strachey in connexion with the general subject of local cesses, and circumstances attending their position and augmentation in many other parts of India. The whole of the facts and arguments brought forward by Sir. J. Strachey, convince us that the original revenue settlements, or agreements, were made when there existed no idea whatever of any additional imposition of cesses, or of any contingency under which such imposition would become desirable ; that no provision was, therefore, made for any such imposition ; and that the terms of the written engagements were clearly not those which would have been employed had the imposition of additional cesses been contemplated. It can well be that the imposition of some of these cesses, and the manner in which it has been sought to justify the imposition, have caused discontent and distrust. Greater caution in India, and more careful scrutiny at home can alone prevent such undesirable complications in connexion with engagements which pledge the Government to revenue arrangements for long periods, and should obviously be binding, in letter and in spirit, on both parties to the transaction."

We are surprised that the *Reviewer* has passed over the Road Cess of Bengal. Although the loyal and law-abiding people of Bengal are paying the cess with punctuality, they cannot shake off the notion that its imposition is a breach of the plighted faith of the Government in the Permanent Settlement.

The *Reviewer* is ungenerous to the Native Press. He observes :

"Though the tone of the Native Press was always more or less unhealthy, the Government paid little attention to the matter until 1857, when all extremely stringent penal law, from the operation of which the English Press in India was not excluded, was passed. In explanation of this measure the Government of India stated :—

"The quarter of a century which has passed since the Press law of 1835 was enacted, has made a remarkable change not only in the number of Native newspapers published, but also in the effect, direct and indirect, upon Natives of matter published in the English papers. When the subjects interest, their passions, they make little or no distinction between sentiments affecting them published by independent Englishmen or English papers, and the sentiments of the English governors of their country. Where their fears are excited or their feelings offended by such publication, the hatred thereby excited turns upon the English Government."

The new law, however, remained a dead letter, although the tone of the Native Press did not improve ; indeed so far as we know, the Government never made any attempt to improve it ; mischievous misstatement has become rather the rule than the exception ; and public attention has lately been directed to an able paper on the subject written by an Indian Civil Servant, and published in a Calcutta periodical. The license of expression allowed to the Native Press has been practically almost unlimited, and toleration has been accorded to writings characterized by bitter animosity to everything English. We cannot but believe that this must, in the absence of any attempt to counteract the impressions conveyed do in the long run serious mischief. *Omne ignotum pro magnifico* applies with as much force to demerits as to merits, nowhere more than in India should this be borne in mind. It would clearly be unwise to close the channel of communication which the Native Press affords for to do so would be to open other channels quite as effective and, therefore, more dangerous than a Press which at least renders the matter disseminated as accessible to the Government as to the people. But to leave the Native Press in its present condition seems equally undesirable. Whether its improvement may best be effected by a censorship, or by the establishment of semi-official journal, or by other means, well deserves early and serious consideration. It is absurd to suppose that the millions of India can be enlightened by some fireside process, and that free discussion in India will not require at least the checks and safeguards found necessary elsewhere. The transition state in India must be a very troublesome one, requiring careful watching and judicious treatment, and during this period a Native Press, even tolerably well conducted ought to be of enormous value and assistance."

The *Reviewer* has evidently forgotten that Lord Canning's Press Act was enforced against the leading English papers viz., the *Friend of India*, the *Hurkaru*, and the *Dacca News*. The Native Press generally did not come under censure at all. We are free to confess that the tone of some of the vernacular papers of the present day is highly objectionable, but the Anglo-Indian Press is primarily responsible for it. Example teaches better than precept, and when leading Anglo-Indian papers are betrayed into violent, and sometimes scurrilous, language by passion, interest or external influence, it is not surprising if the less educated conductors of some of the vernacular papers render themselves open to censure by imitating their example.

MR. GRANT DUFF ON INDIA.

WE have heard of an English enthusiast, who on beginning to learn Sanscrit, and having scarcely finished the first pages of his primer, presumed to write a dissertation on the Sanscrit alphabet and the structure of the Sanscrit language. He thought that he had not more to learn. Similarly Mr. Grant Duff thinks that he has mastered the vast Indian problem by his three months' visit. He no longer views India, he says, through the glass darkly. He is now an authority upon India. Some of his constituents asked him whether he had been led to change any of the opinions he held about India. He replied that he could not say that he had—at least, with reference to any matter of much importance. Without, however, changing one's opinions, one might have one's sentiments and feelings considerably modified, and he thought that had been the case with him in some very important particulars. For example, he remarked, "before he went to India, although he knew that our hold of that country was enormously strong, although he could not see from what quarter any danger against which reasonable foresight and courage would not guard was to arise, he nevertheless felt that the whole fact of our Empire was so strange and abnormal that he could hardly believe it would be permanent. Now, however, that he had seen it he could not think of it as otherwise than permanent, as human things are permanent. Not only was the need of us at this moment great and overwhelming, but he could not see under what circumstances India was, in any time one could look forward to, ever likely to do without us. The difference between ourselves and the races of the country seemed, when one had actually been there, far deeper and more radical than it seemed when one looked across the sea." This is of course a complaisant and not altogether incorrect view. It is quite true that the English are now the absolute masters of India, and that if they were to retire to-morrow, it would be a prey to anarchy and confusion. But let not the apparent stability of the empire make our rulers forget their obligations to the millions, over whom they hold sway. Let not pride of race or lust of power lead them to ignore our common humanity, and disregard the precepts of sages of all times and nations for the just and equitable government of human concerns.

Mr. Grant Duff has seen the world and thus gave an account of it : "Every one must work after his own fashion, and his fashion of working had always been to go first to the country he was going to study and then to read about it. In accordance with that practice, he had visited every European country except Portugal, many of them again and again. In the case of India this process was reversed, and he could not tell them how unpleasant it was to him to feel that he was always looking through a glass darkly. Now all that was changed." It was a pity that he could not extend his stay longer, for the bird's eye view he has taken we fear has misled him, and will equally mislead others, who would act in reliance upon him. Mr. Duff in his address to his constituents at Elgin spoke with confidence of his Indian impressions. He thus exposed Sir Henry Rawlinson on the Central Asian question :

"There were some Indian topics of which people had been talking of late about which he should perhaps say a word ; and, first, with regard to the book which his friend Sir Henry Rawlinson had just published, entitled "England and Russia in the East," he wished to express his regret that the collection of interesting and important papers was not weeded of passages which could do nothing but mischief either in Europe or Asia. It was all very well for Sir Henry to disclaim an official character for his book, but how could a member of the Secretary of State's Council effectually disclaim an official character for a book on the very subjects his knowledge of which gives him the prominent place he holds in that Council? It was most proper that the views which Sir Henry held should be kept before the Secretary of State for various good reasons, and among other reasons that the Russo-phobists might not be able to say that the attention of the India Office and the Foreign Office were not called to the subject which so deeply interested them? But it was not good that readers of this book should be left to find out for themselves which were the views of Sir Henry personally and which were the views which Sir Henry Rawlinson shared with the successive Governments with which he had been connected. Again and again he expressed opinions and diametrically opposed to the views of the late Government, and he had not heard, nor did he believe, that the present Government has dissociated itself from the views of its predecessor on any one of the points to which he alluded. No one yielded to him in Sir Henry Rawlinson's great abilities and acquirements, but he could not think that he was justified in allowing this book to go forth to the world without drawing attention to the fact that the spirit of its policy was by no means the same as that which had been up to this time enunciated by responsible Ministers of the Crown, and that with reference to Cabul, Khelat, and Persia, he had recommended a course of action which they had emphatically and in strong terms repudiated."

He made the following remarks on the Baroda question :

"There was only one question which it was worth while to ask and to answer now,—was Her Majesty's Government right or was it wrong in deposing the Gaekwar. Now, puting aside matter irrelevant to their present purpose, the state of the case was as follows .—The Gaekwar was, by the admission of all, one of the worst rulers in the Indian Peninsular. He was so bad a ruler that if it had not been for our enforcement of peace and order everywhere throughout India, his own subjects long ago would have made short work with him. Just, however, because we enforce peace and order everywhere, we lie under a heavy responsibility to the subjects of these small dependent Princes, and it has ever been our practice, as it is our bounden duty, to interfere when they become wicked overmuch. At length the iniquities of the Gaekwar became so great that we did interfere, and we told him that if he did not within a short period mend his ways and became he did not say a good ruler, but a tolerable or endurable ruler, according to the low standard by which native rulers must always be tried, we should have to take measures for deposition. While this period of grace was running, the Gaekwar was accused of attempting to poison the British Minister at his Court. An investigation was held, and three of the ablest and most trusted Europeans in the country, including the greatest of Indian Judges—as they should call him in Scotland the Lord President, so they called him there the Chief Justice of Bengal—unanimously and unequivocally gave it as their opinion that the Gaekwar had really tried to poison the British Minister. That being so, Her Majesty's Government decided to depose him, and, to his mind, they did perfectly right. All questions as to whether the natives who sat on the Commission of investigation did or did not think him guilty seemed to him, however, important in their bearing on collateral issues, wholly beside the mark with reference to this issue ; and he thought that Her Majesty's Government would have disgraced themselves before Europe and Asia if they had sent back to rule a large number of subjects of the Queen a man who, being by the confession of all an infamously bad ruler, had been pronounced by three of the ablest and wisest heads in all India to be a poisoner into the bargain."

It would seem from Mr. Grant Duff's reasoning that the conviction of the Gaekwar was a foregone conclusion. Need we say that no greater harm could be done to Lord Northbrook's Government than such a confession. Well may his Lordship say—save me from my friends!

Mr. Grant Duff thus spoke about the native army :

"This he would say, that after hearing a great deal of grumbling and alarmist talk from persons, each of whom knew something about his own little corner, and no more, he went over the whole question with the Commander-in-Chief and other persons at the head of Indian military affairs, and came to the conclusion that, in their opinion, the Native army, although like most human institutions susceptible of a good deal of improvement, was, on the whole, more fit for the uses for which it was intended than it ever was at any period of our history. That was very consolatory to him, and he stated it for the benefit of any person who thought that there was some presumption that the persons who had most means of knowing and most interest to know might possibly be right."

He made the following remarks on the competitive men :

"He heartily despised the people who believe that in competitive examination they had got a sovereign remedy for administrative incapacity, and he remembered exciting the rage of some of them by saying in the House of Commons that competitive examination was fast becoming a British fetish. Further, for very obvious reasons, he had a great admiration and regard for the old Indian Civil Service ; nevertheless, after taking great pains to inquire both in India and in England, he was persuaded that the competitive system gave them a distinctly higher average of men for the Civil Service of India than they had in the old Haileybury days. It had been said that the men who were entering their service now were inferior in *Physique*. It had been said that they were inferior in social position, and so less calculated to command the respect of the natives. Both these statements were entirely erroneous. There was hardly a case of a man having entered the service by competition who had not satisfied the best medical authorities in London that he had at least average strength of body, while the great majority rose far above the average standard in that respect. As to social position, the men who entered by competition came with very rare exceptions from precisely the same *Strata* of society as their predecessors. As to the allegations that they were product not of teaching but cramming, using that term in a bad sense, he could detect no foundation for them. The best of the abused grammers

were nothing more or nothing less than skilful teachers, whereas too many of the teachers at some of our most highly endowed and most fashionable public schools were, he feared, lamentably bad teachers.

And so he said to all parents and guardians whom his voice could reach, do not believe one word you hear in disparagement of the teaching of those unfortunate crammers. When the schools could teach, he did not say as well, but pretty nearly as well, they would disappear, and not till then. Meantime they should send their children to the men who made them succeed in their examinations, and be thankful that they had so good a test as these examinations supplied. He did not say that they had now got men so good that they might not be very considerably improved. He thought the examinations might be very materially improved; and above all he thought it would be most important so to arrange the marks given for the different subjects as to get into their service as much larger number of men whose observing faculties had been trained. If he were asked what was the greatest defect he had observed among their officials in India, he should say that it was a certain deadness of the observing faculties; their education had been too purely literary or mathematical; they did not take in nearly enough by the eye; their curiosity as to a great many things about them had not been sufficiently stimulated. Further, he thought nothing but good could come of giving their young men, when they had once caught them by competitive examination, the benefit of a couple of years of University training; and there were other minor changes and improvements that he thought he could suggest. Still they were getting in his judgment, remarkably good results even by the present somewhat defective system; they were getting very distinctly better results than they ever got before."

We have not space for more extracts. It will be seen that Mr. Grant Duff is neither profound nor original. The address was one of those commonplace utterances, which he could have made without spending three months in India, and which instead of enhancing has lowered his reputation as a keen observer, and a practical politician.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE much pleasure in announcing the names of under-mentioned subscribers in aid of Dr. Sircar's Science Association received last week:

	Rs.
Raja Ram Ranjan Chakervarti of Hitampore.....	500
Babu Rajendernath Mitter, Hd. Asst. Bengal Office	100
,, Prankissen Mookerjee of Tallah.....	50
,, Beginbehari Dutt, Government Pleader, Midnapore.....	500

WE OBSERVE that the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to concede the elective system to the town of Burdwan. There will be eighteen Municipal Commissioners, twelve of whom are to be elected by the rate-payers and six appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor. The elective franchise is not limited by money qualification. Any man of full age, who lives within three miles of municipal limits, is a rate-payer, can read and write, and has not been convicted of a non-bailable offence, is eligible for the dignified post of a Commissioner. The township is, for elective purposes, to be divided into four wards, each of which will return three representatives. Any two rate-payers may nominate a candidate. Objections are to be lodged not later than the 6th March next. On the 10th March a final list of candidates will be hung up in at least one conspicuous place in each ward. The election will be held on some day not later than the 25th March. No rate-payer is to have more than one vote. The result of the poll, after careful scrutiny, is to be published in the *Gazette*, and all costs are to be paid from Municipal Funds. Why does not Government concede the elective system to the Suburban Municipality?

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR has graded the Deputy Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of schools in the following manner:

		Rs.
10	Deputy Inspectors of the 1st grade on	200
15	,, ,, ,, 2nd ,, ...	150
20	,, ,, ,, 3rd ,, ...	100
25	Sub-Inspectors ,, 1st ,, ...	75
75	,, ,, ,, 2nd ,, ...	50
55	,, ,, ,, 3rd ,, ...	30

This will, it will be observed, give a total force of 45 Deputy Inspectors and 155 Sub-Inspectors, or 200 officers in all; and we are told in the present state of the provincial funds, a larger establishment than this cannot be maintained without an undue reduction of the salaries allotted to the different grades. Deputy Inspectors will further be entitled to draw travelling allowance at 4 annas a mile, and Sub-Inspectors at 3 annas a mile. It is estimated that these allowances will amount to about Rs. 50 in the case of a Deputy Inspector, and to about Rs. 35 in the case of a Sub-Inspector. But the allowances for peons and contingencies, which are at present drawn by Deputy Inspectors, will henceforth be discontinued. The scale of pay we must confess is not sufficiently attractive, but we hail it as a tentative measure. We wish the Government had taken this occasion to grade the teachers of Government Schools. This measure has been long contemplated, but we do not know whether it is destined to be ever carried into execution.

WE OBSERVE in the last annual report of the Calcutta Municipality that of all the sitting Justices, who tried Municipal cases last year, Mr. A. M. Vardon netted the largest amount of revenue in the shape of fines and penalties. The fines adjudged by him amounted to Rs. 9044, and this fact is prominently noticed by the Chairman in his report. We fear this prominent mention will do more harm than good. Accustomed to fine heavily, Mr. Vardon it is reported is now fining still more mercilessly. Poor people, who have been late in paying the license tax by a month or so, are shewn no quarters, though they have been accustomed to pay late and though they have taken out license on service of summons. A few such fining Justices like Mr. Vardon, and the happiness of the poor rate-payers of the town, whom fate has placed within the meshes of the municipal law, will know no bounds.

WE DO NOT know whether Mr. Hogg is aware what oppression is committed by some of his underlings in serving notices upon house-owners requiring them to pull down their houses on the allegation that they are in a dangerous condition and about to come down. Two cases have been brought to our notice, in one of which the complainant says that the house has been damaged by drainage works, that it has been repaired by him, and that he was prepared to make further repairs, when the municipal mirmydon came and demolished a part of his house, and in the other that the house is perfectly sound, but the vandalism was committed without any compunction. We have not seen the houses and cannot say how far the allegations of the complainants are correct. But judging by analogy we are not disposed to accept the report of the Overseer without qualification. The facts which we are going to state have occurred within our knowledge. A house in Baloram Dey's Street was seriously damaged by drainage works; the owner was in correspondence with the Justices for nearly a year for compensation; in the meantime came a notice from the Engineer's department that the house must be pulled down; the owner was taken completely by surprise; he again drew the attention of the Engineer to the fact that the damage had been caused by the Justices, that if the house was in a dangerous state it was entirely owing to them, that they had delayed a year in repairing his house or paying him compensation, and now to crown their acts they had served him with a notice to demolish the house! On this representation Mr. Leslie himself went, carefully inspected the house, and ordered the notice to be withdrawn! Now the owner of this house was a man of means and influence, and got prompt redress, but others are not in the same position, and who knows whether in the two cases to which our attention has been called the notice has not been as recklessly served as in the case in Baloram Dey's Street. We hope Mr. Hogg will look into these matters and make it a rule that no house should be ordered to be pulled down without a detailed report from the Engineer after personal inspection. In the case in Baloram Dey's Street the Engineer had not seen the house at all, and the notice had been served on the authority of the Overseer.

WE TAKE the following paragraph from the *Pioneer*:

"The Deputy Commissioner of Barabunkee, Mr. W. C. Wood, disposed on Saturday last of the case of the Crown vs. Mawson for committing grievous hurt to the Station-Master of the place, by fining Mr. Mawson fifty rupees. The case occupied the Court nearly three days; Baboo K. P. Ghuttuck appearing for the prosecution under the direction of Major M. Proctor, District Superintendent of Police, and Mr. Thomas, Barrister-at-law, for Mr. Mawson. It was alleged on behalf of the prosecution that Mr. Mawson, consequent on not receiving certain packages in proper time, proceeded to the Barabunkee station, and had an altercation with the Station-Master, threatening to report him to higher authority; and that on the Station-Master telling Mr. Mawson to do as he pleased, the latter struck him violently on the head with a stick of rather ugly dimensions. The Civil Surgeon, Dr. Franklin, deposed to the fact of there having been a fracture in the skull, and that such fracture under the Indian Penal Code constituted grievous hurt. The European guards and drivers who were within the station at the time, for three trains had opportunely come in, testified to the fact that the Station-Master on being pushed aside by Mr. Mawson and told to get out of his way, struck Mr. Mawson first with his umbrella and called the assistance of the Railway Police, and that Mr. Mawson on this gave him two blows with his stick, and was then pinioned by the railway staff. The Deputy Commissioner considered that Mr. Mawson had received grave and sudden provocation from the Station-Master, but that he was not wholly justified in using his stick as he did, and accordingly fined him fifty rupees.

We fail to see how Mr. Mawson "received grave and sudden provocation from the Station-Master." If he had not insulted him first, if he had not pushed him aside, and told him "to get out of his way," he would not have been struck first. So far as we can judge from the above Mr. Mawson was to blame from the beginning to the end, and yet he has been let off so easily. This is Mofussil Justice!

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE reviews with satisfaction the last annual report of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. It has been submitted with due punctuality, but the Lieutenant Governor remarks that "he would have been glad, had the Judges reviewed more minutely the figured statements submitted by them, and had they brought into prominent relief those results which would seem to point to anything defective in the working of the Court, or to amendments which might be made with advantage in the existing Small Cause Court Acts. These have now been in force for a lengthened period, and have fairly met, His Honor believes, the objects with which they were passed. Much might, however, be done to adapt them to the modern form which the Statute Book has now assumed, and without admitting the necessity for all the amendments which have at, various times been proposed, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the time has now arrived when advantage might be taken of the experience which has been gained of the working of the several provisions of the existing Acts to recast them entirely, with such alterations as may on mature deliberation, appear to be advisable. In a late communication the Government of India have held out some hope of this task being undertaken by the Legislative Council." We entirely concur with His Honor. We hope the consolidation of the Acts will provide for the speedy recovery of rent from tenants occupying tiled huts, which according to the ruling of the High Court cannot be seized or sold in satisfaction of arrears of rent. With regard to the employment of Mooktears the Lieutenant Governor remarks:

"Another question which has engaged the attention of Government during the year was the exclusion of unauthorized law agents from the Court. The necessity excluding a numerous class of law brokers had long pressed itself on the attention of the Court, and decisive steps were taken on removing to the new buildings, to effect the end desired. Complaints were, however, made to the Lieutenant-Governor of the inconvenience caused by the absence of some agency, inferior to vakeels, for conducting the business of suitors, and the judges of the Court, who were addressed on the subject, have accordingly intimated their willingness to admit, as, "an approved agent" any mookhtear authorized to act in the High Court or any Court Subordinate to it."

The resolution of the Lieutenant Governor does not redress the grievance of those Mooktears, who have borne a good character, but who have been deprived of their bread under the sweeping orders of the Court. We do hope that this part of the subject will be re-considered by the Court and Government.

MR. J. E. T. ROGERS of Cambridge in a letter to the London *Daily News* makes the following remarks on the fitness of natives for judicial employ:

"The character of the English Judges has been at once the product of professional honour and of a watchful public opinion. It has grown slowly, and it has been diffused among all judicial functionaries, from the highest official to the pettiest magistrate. We hear of stupid English magistrates but very rare of corrupt ones. When they do occur, they are portents. Can we expect those essential qualities from Asiatics? That there are Hindus and Mohammedans of nice honour and judicial fairness, I can believe. But is it not certain that falsehood is the hardest thing to cleanse out of Oriental blood? Mr. Lane was a singularly friendly critic of Mohammedan institutions. But he acknowledges the universal corruption of Mohammedan judges. Are not mendicity, cunning, and an

utter indifference to detection admitted to be general characteristics of the Indian races? Can a hundred years of English rule have eradicated these vices from the people whom we have striven to govern by justice?"

This is a gross libel. Where has Mr. Rogers got his facts from? We challenge any person to say whether the native Judges of Bengal yield to any judiciary in the world in honesty. The poor Munsifs, not long ago living on a wretched pittance of Rs. 100 a month, it is well known, discharged their duties with the utmost integrity. The reports of Government and the Sudder and High Courts bear the highest testimony to their character.

AT THE last annual exhibition of the Calcutta Medical College the sanad of Rai Bahadur was presented to Babu Ramsunder Ghose. Dr. Chevers, who presided on the occasion, in presenting the Sanad, spoke as follows:

"Assistant Surgeon Ram Sunder Ghose,—I have been desired by the Surgeon general, in my capacity of Principal of the Medical College, in which you received your professional education, to present to you, upon this particular occasion, the *sanad*, or patent, of Rai Bahadur, which the Government have been pleased to confer upon you as a personal distinction. in recognition of your long and meritorious service in the Indian Medical Department. Rai Ram Sunder Ghose Bahadur,—The records of the Surgeon General's Office show that you obtained your diploma in this College in 1847, twenty eight years ago. Your first mufasal appointment in the Bhil District (Dekkan) enabled you to give evidence of your strength of character and your zeal in the cause of suffering humanity. There, in a remote and wild district, which was then a terror to most of your countrymen, you organised a charitable dispensary for the relief of the almost savage tribes who surrounded you. You early displayed talent as a surgeon, which found ample scope when you held medical charge of the 18th Irregular Cavalry and Malwa Bhil Corps, and more especially when, at Leha, you were deputed to the charge of those wounded, in a raid, by the Kuzzanis, and performed your work with so much ability and humanity that the authorities' report gained for you a recognition, by Government, of your services at Leha. In the sepoy mutiny of 1857 you were one of the foremost of that great body of loyal native gentlemen educated, in this College, who did good service to the Government, who had befriended you from your early youth. You made arrangements for sending native doctors with detachments to different parts of the district. You, at the same time, held medical charge of the 17th Irregular Cavalry, and of three thousand newly levied troops, horse and foot, acting as patrols. The greater part of your service, in the Upper Provinces, was devoted to the medical charge of civil stations and dispensaries. You appear to have opened four important dispensaries at Bhapawar, at Ambala, at Dera Ghazi Khan, and at Leha. If in ancient Hindoostan, he who dug a well and planted a tree was reverenced as a public benefactor, what shall be the respect accorded to him who organised four district hospitals for the relief of unnumbered thousands of suffering human beings? You soon became remarkable as a surgical operator, and performed lithotomy in nearly 500 cases. Two hundred of the stones were sent to the museum of this College. So highly were your character and ablity approved of by Dr. Green, afterwards head of the Medical Department, that you were promoted to the fist grade of your rank when you were only in the eleventh year of your service. For nearly 15 years, you have held important posts in Bengal, especially in Calcutta, as superintendent of one of the vaccination divisions. In performing this duty, which is never assigned to any but men of considerable mark, carefully selected by the Surgeon General, you have always received the highest approval of the Superintendents General of Vaccination, Dr. John Macpherson and Dr. Charles. Your energy in spreading vaccination throughout your districts has been signal; and in 1874, you aided Dr. Charles so validly in stamping out an epidemic of small-pox, which had invaded Calcutta, that you received the thanks of the Bengal Government. Your immediate superior reported in February last that, within two years, you had vaccinated 1,63,000 persons. Rai Ram Sunder Ghose Bahadur,—As Principal of the Medical College, I feel great pleasure in being directed to present your *sanad* to you in presence of the Director General of the Educational Department, the Surgeon General, and the Superintendent General of Vaccination, a large concourse of our students witnessing this act of honor, and, I deeply hope, taking example by it. I trust that, in after years, your children's children will look with gratification upon that *sanad*, telling their children that, although their ancestor, whom the Government was pleased to reward and honor, was a member of a service in which power and great wealth are not obtainable, all who knew him, from the Government downwards, esteemed him for his examplary character and good service, and accorded him the highest praise that any officer can wish for—in declaring that *he did his duty*."

Long may Babu Ramsunder Ghose enjoy the honor, which the Government has been pleased to confer upon him in recognition of his valuable and meritorious services!

DR. CHEVERS made some pertinent remarks to the students of the Calcutta Medical College at the last annual exhibition. He said:

"This College calls for in its students many of those qualities which the shastras demand in the physician. The student must be intelligent, truthful, punctual in all his attendance, and strictly obedient. He must be, in the plainest sense of the term, a gentleman—a condition which is altogether personal, and quite independent of rank and social position, always remembering that he who is, in truth, a gentleman can never stand low in the social scale. The gentleman is religious, moderate, honest, generous, courteous, faithful to all his duties and obligations diligent in his own business, but even more sensitive and more scrupulous in those things which affect the welfare of his neighbour than in those which advance his own interests. His thoughts, if not his words, are full of such ideas as these, "I have been in error. I will make compensation. I am not the most worthy here. Give my brother his share. There is enough for us all. Let us all start fairly. He has fallen; let us pause and sustain him. He is my enemy, but there is good in him. I rejoice in your well-earned success; mine is in the hands of God. What the priest is in the church the gentleman is in society and in college. Wherever he is, his presence acts as an antisceptic; it keeps the moral atmosphere pure."

Again:

"The medical teachers in Calcutta have a good and plastic meterial to deal with. The native of India generally is capable of learning everything the European can teach him; his powers of steady sustained study are,—if he would only exercise them throughout his life, and not discontinue them, as so many do at the moment of success, just at the point when the slow Englishman begins to warm to his task,—quite without parallel within my observation. Possibly a German may be able to study as steadily as a Hindu can. No native of the United Kingdom, with the exception of the Irishman, at all approaches him in readiness of speech and fluency of expression. Whenever he may determine to close to easy "fine" writing, and places Dr. Samuel John's periods and the phrases of the slang dictionary somewhat aside, he will be recognised as a writer of signal facility, and great power of expression. His proverbial cowardice is a mere phantom of the imagination. In the next generation, it will never he heard of, if native fathers will only teach their children that true courage is a virtue. In woman, and in Bengalis, cowardice is a socially authorised habit, not an original mental defect. I can emagine a stout potentate seated on his masnad at Murshidabad, exclaiming, "You Bengalis are cowards; go forth and teach your children so. I will save you a vast deal of trouble. It will do all the fighting of the province?" Most assuredly, the Bengali surgeon is no coward in the practice of his profession. Still, again, no lecturer ever had a more quiet and attentive class than he who lectures in India. The native of this country is, when he equally avoids servility and an imitation of English abruptness, one of the most courteous of nature's gentlemen."

We refuse to believe, as it has been insinuated to us, that Dr. Chevers meant to reflect upon the medical students in the above remarks. On the contrary he distinctly declared:

"Now, towards the end of my active career, it is a true pleasure, as it will be a real solace in the unsolicited inertness of my future, to review in memory the large body of distinguished students who have gone out into public life from this College under my own eye, as well appointed as regards professional lore, and as well qualified for practice and contact with the world as regards high character and gentlemanly bearing as any other class of students with whom it has been my fortune to become acquainted."

Nothing could be more frank and generous than this testimony. As for cowardice, Dr. Chevers ought to remember that it is the result of centuries of foreign domination and oppression, but in the hard battles of life as he himself testifies the Bengali shows as good courage as any other educated person. The Bengali Surgeon, he himself said, is no coward in the practice of his profession.

THE LONDON PAPERS to hand contain a report of the Rev. Mr. Long's lecture on the advance of Russia in Central Asia. He has carefully studied Russia and its resources, and his observations are therefore entitled to great attention. He remarks:

"When the English people talked of the difficulty of invading India they ignored the thirty invasions of India that had already taken place from Central Asia, and how the Afghans had ruled India for centuries. As to the physical difficulties of marching troops, they were not to be compared to what Diebtich had in the Balkans, Kauffman at Khiva, England in Abyssinia. The Hindoo-Kush had nineteen passes through it. An empire looked up to with ignorant admiration by millions of discontented natives in India and embarrassing a peaceful policy there, Russian influence was creeping down through the Hindoo-Kush and the frontier of Kashmir, and it might soon be a question whether Afghanistan was to be Russian or English, for the figment of a neutral zone, was vanishing into thin air. He referred at considerable length to the work of Russia, the railways now projected *via* Teheran to India, and *via* Taschkent to China, by which Constantinople would become the emporium of Chinese trade for Europe. He also sketched the progress of Russia as follows:—"Russia's advance in Central Asia since 1847 has been like an increasing tide, noiseless, ceaseless, but effective; during that period our north-west frontier in India has also been greatly extended, the Punjab and Oude have been annexed, but Russia has gone ahead of England, for she has acquired a territory equal in size to Great Britian, France, Germany, and Turkey, in Europe United, though the population is not larger than that of London. The wave rolls on, and, as the Emperor Nicholas used to say Russia has no boundary in Central Asia. Within a quarter of a century Russia has moved down from the north of the Caspian 500 miles south and 1400 miles east, until she is now within 250 miles of Peshawur, with her influence extending where her arms have not reached, as Sir H. Rawlinson, in his recent work, England and Russia in the East,' states;—'Instead of two empires divided by half the Continent of Asia, as of old there is now intervening between their political frontiers a narrow strip of territory a few hundred miles across, occupied either by tribes torn by internecine war or nationalities, and in the lowest state of decrepitude, and traversed by military in all directions. The recent conquest of Khiva gives Russia the Oxus, a navigable stream and fertile banks in a position with regard to Affghanistan like that of the Rhine to France, or Indus on our north west frontier. The wave may roll on south until it reaches the Persian Gulf, or Indian Ocean, for in native States there is no capacity of resisting a European power. As a Russian General said to me at St. Petersburg, Native States are like a pack of cards, knock one down and the whole go." This advance be considered not to have its object in Turkestan, but in China, where there lay 400,000 square miles of unworked coal, a large population to trade with, and acquiring wealth. The Slave race were, he said, semi-Oriental, and likely effective in the treatment of the Oriental races, and he added:—"Our Indian Government will have to frame its Indian policy not as if the Himalayas limited it, but must take into account our neighbourhood to Russia with all its disturbing effects on the native mind. Russia's position on the frontiers of Affghanistan is *de facto* a menace to India. Even acquitting Russia of all ulterior designs on India, the fact of the neighbourhood is sufficient, like a spark on inflammable materials, and there are many agents who know how to fan the flame. We must adopt, in the face of this, a more definite home policy. We must not uphold feudalism either in hand or with princes in contrast with Russian democracy—tenant right. We must not aim at ruling India from a Saxon standpoint while Russia takes the Oriental one for her Asiatic dominations; in a word, we must govern India more on the great basis laid down by the East India Company in its best days—a restored Haileybury for civilians, to render them better adapted to rule Oriental races than the present class of competitive wallahs are; we want for the natives justice, not English forms of law and English lawyears, whose success is the ruin of the Hindus. India requires a Dickens to write a 'Bleak House.' We need an enlightened diplomacy, and the Russian language ought to be studied in England." In conclusion, he said:—"Is the empire on which the sun never sets, with all its civilising influences, to be reduced to a petty island, or is she to continue as the head of a great civilising confederacy, with her base on the ocean, embracing the Dominion of Canada on the one side, Australia on the other, and India in the centre, her power being ships, colonies, and commerce? Happily, the current of public opinion, while holding to non-intervention on the Continent, no longer sets towards the disintegration or the dissolution of the British Empire."

There was an interesting discussion on the subject. Prince Iskandar Khan Barikzey of Affghanistan spoke as follows:

"The English Government had been the cause of all the difficulties in Afghanistan, by not supporting, as they were bound by treaty, Dost Mahommed. While he was subduing a rebellious province his rebel brother was recognised. But he would ask, what was Russia to the Afghans that England was not? England had been the friend of the Afghans for thirty years, and had supplied them with money and arms. Russia had given them no help, and it was absurd to talk of secret correspondence without any proof of it. As to the succession the Afghan custom was that the mother of the heir apparent should be one of the royal family; and therefore the present heir apparent, Abdul Ali Khan, had been named by the Ameer. Yakoub Ali Khan was the son, moreover, of a daughter of a chief who had been a foe to the British. He thought, however, that with these family matters the English had nothing to do. It was necessary for England to check Russia, who did not come to civilise but to take; and in the advance of Russia, Afghanistan would be certain to fall victim before British India. It would not do for the English to rely on a native army, for not a man in India loved the English; but they should fight the Russians not in India, but in Turkistan. The opinion of Asiatics as to English policy was that they would take all they could get, and do nothing for it. An embassy came from Kashgar to ask the English to help them, and the advice of the English was to give up certain town for fear of complications with Russia. Russia helped those who asked her aid. Afghanistan was obliged to be faithful to England, and England helped her; and the Afghans would fight for Afghanistan. If England had a contest with Russia let her send an army to march with the Afghans to the Amoo Daria, and, said the prince, "We will beat Russia." (Cheers.)

If the prince represented the feeling of the nations peopling Central Asia towards our Government, it is much to be regretted. The great defect of the British Government is that it cannot strike the oriental imagination. It is too formal, cold, and unsympathizing.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The *Sahachar* strongly condemns the action of the Government of India in deporting sixty-four subjects of the Baroda Raj without a trial. This is an aggravation of the wrong already done to Baroda, and if too much time has not already lapsed for retracing the step taken it exhorts the Government to rectify the mistake.

Referring to the constitution and person *nell* of the School-Book-Committee the above paper thinks that it was at an unfortunate moment that the Government ordered a revision of the school-books and constituted a Book-committee. Instead of having a set of experienced considerate and impartial men in committee the work has devolved upon men who far from advancing the interest of the cause entrusted to them are likely to prove its ruinous opponents. There are in the committee two men who see no merit in any of the existing school-books English and Bengali and having condemned them all, have undertaken to supersede them by works compiled by themselves or translated at their direction. Some of the books already published by these worthies are full of blemishes and inaccuracies but who will expose them when they are the judges? But the crowning point of the whole affair is their taking upon themselves the publication of Bengali school-books! We may stoop to any thing but certainly cannot submit to be taught our mother tongue by such means. The Editor concludes with recommending a reconstitution of the school-book committee with men of the stamp of Messrs. Woodrow, and Sutcliffe and giving detached instructions as to the mode of procedure or abolishing the committee altogether and re-

lieving us from the necessity of receiving bastard Bengali books under the direction of Englishmen.

The *Agirtabazar Putrica* says that whatever new measures were inaugurated in Bengal by its different Lieutenant-Governors have disappeared with their departure. The name of Sir Cecil Beadon however still lives in the memory of the Agricultural Exhibition of Alipore. The example set by that exhibition has not been lost. An exhibition like that is still held at Furreedpore which stimulates agricultural productions, cements a bond of amity between the ryots and zemindars who assemble there and affords incentives to the people generally for undertaking schemes for improving their worldly condition. The editor thinks that such melas or exhibitions should be held in every zillah and sub-division even in every village town of a zemindar, they many prove of infinate advantage to the country in improving commerce and agriculture, and stimulating the physical strength and energy of the people and cultivating feelings of good will and amity amongst them. But the wealthy and influential people of this country are so indifferent and lethargic that they will not set their hand in works which may serve purposes of public and private utility.

We hail with great pleasure the appearance of a new Bengali weekly from Benares under the name of *Baranussy Patrika*. The paper proposes to be a vendor of news but in the specimen number before us except a column of summary of news all the articles are of a purely literary character. We wish the undertaking every success.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.		Rs.	As.	P.
Dr.	B. Goopto. Burdwan	13	4	0
S.	Balkrishna Das, Raneeghanta	39	12	0
Raja	Poorendrodeb Roybahadoor, Bansbariah	13	4	0
Baboo	Luckynarain Das, Gowhatty	13	4	0
,,	Banykanth Ghose, Nyadoomka	6	8	0
,,	Rajkissen Poramanick, Gya	13	4	0
,,	Jadubchunder Poramanick, Santipore	13	4	0
,,	Hemchunder Gossami, Serampore	13	4	0
,,	Korallychurn Banerjee, Chandernagore	10	0	0
,,	Kallycoomar Mitter, Arrah	6	10	0
,,	Kallykishore Mookerjee, Monghyr	1	14	0
,,	Jodoogopaul Banerjee, Mhow	13	4	0
,,	Kallycoomar Chuckerbutty. Chittagong	6	10	0
,,	Tareenylal Chowdry, Chittagong	13	4	0
,,	Bhoobunchunder Mookerjee, Khoolneah	13	4	0
,,	Rajmohun Khasnavis. Nowgong	13	4	0
,,	Promothonath Mookerjee, Burisal	13	3	6
,,	Annodapersal Pattuck, Calna	13	4	0
,,	Issenchunder Patronovis, Sylhet	13	4	0
,,	Soseevoosun Ghose, Contai	10	0	0
,,	Parbuttychurn Mitter, Kessoriah	5	0	0
,,	Chundercoomar Chatterjee, Rajpore	10	0	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*June* 16, 1875.

GENERAL.—*The* 11*th May* 1875.—Mr. Herbert Mosley, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Patna, is appointed to act in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

The 9th June 1875.—Mr. Alexander Smith, Magistrate and Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI, of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the afternoon of the 1st August 1875.

Mr. Frederick William Voysey Peterson is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Jessore during the absence, on leave, of Mr. A. Smith, or until further orders.

Mr. W. Wavell, Magistrate and Collector of Moorshedabad, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI, of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved by Mr. Verner.

Mr. W. H. Verner, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, on leave, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Moorshedabad during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. Wavell, or until further orders.

The 10*th June* 1875.—The following Sub-divisional Officers in Gya are vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X (B. C.) of 1871:—

Mr. Edward Stewart, Sub-divisional Officer, Jehanabad.

Mr. Henry Blunt Beames, Sub-divisional Officer, Nowadah.

Baboo Chunder Seeker Banerjea, Sub-divisional Officer, Aurungabad.

Mr. Charles Dickenson Field, M. A. and LL. D., District and Sessions Judge of Moorshedabad, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 21, Chapter VI, of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved of his duties by Mr. W. F. Meres.

Mr. William Fitzpatrick Meres is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Moorshedabad during the absence, on leave, of Mr. C. D. Field, or until further orders.

Mr. Anthony John Richards Bainbridge, District and Sessions Judge of Burdwan, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-seven days, under Section 21, Chapter VI, of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 3rd July 1875, or such date as he may avail himself of it.

Sir William James Herchel, Bart., is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Burdwan during the absence, on leave, of Mr. A. J. R. Bainbridge, or until further orders.

Mr. Robert Fulton Rampini, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is appointed to be Assistant and Joint Sessions Judge of the three districts of Darjeeling, Julpigoree, and Cooch Behar, and is vested with the powers of a District Judge, under Section 10, Act VI of 1871.

The 12*th June* 1875.—Mr. W. H. Page, C. S., reported his departure from India on leave on medical certificate on the 18th May 1875.

The 14*th June* 1875.—Baboo Protap Narain Sing, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, of Jehanabad, in Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 for the purpose of acquiring land required for a new line of road from Gochalun to Jehanabad.

Advertisements.

Notice.

The public is hereby informed that the Ejarah of the Ferry Bhoor Bhooriah, on the river Fenny with 4 other adjoining ghats will be farmed out by public auction, for the remaining 9 months of the current official year at 2 P.M. of the 28th June 1875, in the Office of the Executive Engineer at Chittagong.

Further particulars regarding this can be had on application in the Executive Engineer's Office Chittagong Division.

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(Sd.) W. WAVELL.
Chairman of the District Road Cess Committee.
Berhampore 22*nd May* 1875. 119

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